

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Through the gap
FA Cup finalists Watford, the team that went from nowhere to the top under manager Graham Taylor



Shirt tales
Suzy Menkes looks at what's new in shirt fashions
On his Own
One man and his party: Peter Kellner on Dr David Owen
East side story
Computer Horizons visits Tokyo to meet the family man who has become Japan's Mr Fifth Generation

Chernenko is ill say envoys

West European diplomats said yesterday that President Chernenko had appeared "in poor shape" during talks with King Juan Carlos of Spain last Thursday and Friday. They said Mr Chernenko, aged 72, had to be helped out of his car by aides who supported him under each elbow. The scene was reminiscent of Mr Andropov's state of health this time last year.

Bodies exhumed
The bodies of two young Palestinians killed after they hijacked an Israeli bus have been exhumed for autopsy as part of an investigation into their deaths

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Cenotaph place
Dr David Owen, the Social Democratic Party leader, is expected to win his campaign to be allowed to lay a wreath at the Cenotaph yesterday in remembrance Sunday.

Cyprus rebuff
The UN Security Council has issued a strongly-worded condemnation of attempts by Turkish Cypriots to consolidate their self-proclaimed state in the north of the island.

Leading article, page 15

Libyan claims
The Foreign Office yesterday dismissed as "absurd" Libyan claims that the British Government helped anti-Gaddafi terrorists living in Britain.

Punjab riots
Rioting spread throughout Punjab and the neighbouring state of Haryana after a Hindu editor was shot and killed by Sikh extremists in Jullundur at the weekend.

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Teachers' pay
Employers on the teachers' pay negotiating body are expected to seek ways of breaking the pay talks deadlock over the next few days

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Laker action
The Director General of Fair Trading has stepped into a long-running dispute over reimbursement of travellers after the Laker Airways collapse.

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Faldo's encore
Nick Faldo won the £100,000 Carr Care Plan International at Moortown for the second successive year, beating Hogan Clark by one shot

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Leader page 15
Letters: On Northern Ireland from Mr J. E. Hamilton; the miners from Mr Joe Ashton, MP; the Olympics from Dom D. Morland, OSB and others. **Leading articles**: Hong Kong; Cyprus; London marathon. **Features**, pages 12-14.

Labour and the miners' strike: the top brass in Heseltine's sights; why the big top is caving in; to lie or not to lie? **Speculation**: the Bounties saga again. **Mondays page**: divorce, American-style. **Gatwick Express**

A Special Report marks the opening of British Rail's non-stop rail service between Victoria and Gatwick airport. **Features**, pages 17-19

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Unita frees British hostages after visit by diplomat

From Michael Hornsby, Jamba, Unita headquarters in Angola

The 16 Britons and one Portuguese taken hostage on February 23 by Angolan insurgents were handed over here at the weekend to Sir John Leahy, a special Foreign Office envoy, after 79 days in captivity.

They were flown to Johannesburg yesterday afternoon in a C130 transport aircraft hired from the South Africans, and are due to fly home to Britain tonight.

Sir John, the most senior British diplomat concerned with African affairs, took them into his custody amid tribal singing and dancing at a midnight ceremony on Saturday in a makeshift stadium at guerrilla headquarters here.

After three hours of talks with Dr Jonas Savimbi, the leader of the Unita movement, and his top political and military aides.

In a short speech, Sir John, who at times looked ill at ease, said it had been suggested to him before he left Britain that it was humiliating to have to go and beg for the release of British citizens. "I have not had to beg for anything today, and if this is humiliation, I can take a lot more of it," he declared to cheerers.

In the circumstances, the 17 hostages - 16 men and the Portuguese wife of one of them - looked remarkably well. All said they had been well treated by their Unita captors, who had done what they could to mitigate their ordeal.

For 32 days of their captivity they were force-marched

through 300 miles of inhospitable bush in constant fear of counter-attack by Angolan Government forces.

The Britons were originally part of a larger group of foreigners captured during a Unita attack on Kafunfo, a diamond mining town in north-eastern Angola. They were working there under contract to British-based companies. The other captives were set free last month, but Dr Savimbi continued to hold the British group because of dissatisfaction with Britain's attitude towards Unita.

A series of meetings ensued between Unita representatives and Foreign Office officials in London. Dr Savimbi wanted a Government minister to come out to his "provisional capital", while London was initially only prepared to send a Conservative MP. Sir John was the eventual compromise choice in a diplomatically delicate situation for Britain, which recognizes the Marxist regime in Luanda as

the legal Government of Angola.

Sir John flew by helicopter into the "liberated zone of free Angola", as Unita calls the south-eastern third of the country which it claims to control, from an airstrip in northern Namibia, with a little help from the South African military authorities. He spent the night at Jamba in a well-appointed thatch-and-reed hut as Dr Savimbi's guest and flew back to South Africa yesterday morning.

Dr Savimbi is well-known for his grasp of the importance of public relations, and an international group of journalists was also flown into Angola for the occasion.

The last leg of our journey to Jamba was a bone-shaking nine-hour lorry drive through the dense bush which gave some inkling of the discomforts suffered by the hostages during their 800-mile journey south from Kafunfo to Jamba.

Dr Savimbi, a bearded figure in crisp camouflage uniform and red beret, with a pistol at his hip and a black ivory-handled cane in his right hand, told us that Unita "considers (Sir John's) visit a victory. They (the British) didn't take us seriously. They ignored the presence of Unita. The fact is that I am not going to stop fighting. I am still advancing and more British citizens could be at risk".

Earlier, at an arrival cer-

Continued on back page, col 1



Sir John Leahy (left) and Dr Savimbi

US warned on Brazil repayments

By Graham Seargent

Brazil has warned the US that new restrictions on imported Brazilian steel could stop debt repayments to American banks. If they don't buy our steel, we won't be able to pay our debts", Senator Carrilo Penna, Brazil's Commerce and Industry Minister, said at a weekend press conference.

US banks hold about a third of Brazil's estimated \$100 billion foreign debt.

The latest American restrictions involve higher duties to counteract what the US sees as unfair Brazilian subsidies to its effectively state-controlled steel industry.

Brazil argues that its low prices reflect lower wages and successive currency devaluations forced on it as conditions for loan rescheduling.

Senhor Penna has been the most outspoken of Brazil's ministers in stressing the internal difficulties caused by loan conditions and increasing American interest rates and protectionism, which have contributed to recent riots.

Brazil sent a formal letter of complaint to creditor nations last week about the effect on its debt burden of the latest increase in American interest rates.

"Gramov has to suggest the door is still open," one Western diplomat commented. "Otherwise there would be no point in Samaranch coming in at all."

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Olympic official fails to shift Moscow

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The senior Olympic official who came to Moscow this weekend to try to save the Los Angeles Games emerged yesterday from his talks empty-handed, and diplomats said Moscow's decision not to attend now seemed irrevocable.

Sources said the next step could be for Russia to suggest that Third World nations should also stay away. Tass said the Olympiad would be "inferior" and "lacklustre" without the Soviet block.

Señor María Vásquez Rana of Mexico met Mr Marat Gramov, head of the Soviet Olympic Committee, for several hours, but failed to extract assurances that Moscow might reconsider.

Mr Gramov said he was prepared to talk to Señor Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee, who hopes to visit Moscow this week. Diplomats noted that this was already known before Señor Vásquez Rana arrived. Mr Gramov is expected to indicate his attitude to further talks when he gives a press conference in Moscow today.

"Gramov has to suggest the door is still open," one Western diplomat commented. "Otherwise there would be no point in Samaranch coming in at all."

Three missing: Denise Boezait, Ian Ward, and Emma Bishop, who disappeared on Saturday.

and is known to have friends in Essex, but Mr Cheal said he could be anywhere. The children, whose home addresses are not being revealed by police, are Ian Robert Ward, aged 15, Denise Boezait, aged 12, and Emma Bishop, aged 12.

"The children have never left home before, and we are deeply concerned for their physical safety," Mr Cheal added. "Their parents share our worst fears, and they are appealing for whoever is with these children to return them to before they come to any harm."

Mr Boezait, an itinerant, is described as scruffy, five feet eight inches tall, slim, and wearing a brown suede bomber jacket.

It is neither new nor unreasonable that tournaments should take particular care over their umpiring appointments when McEnroe is competing. The plain truth is that his matches tend to test the umpire's knowledge and character more than roost. The same sort of

thing happens in other professional sports.

Keith Johnson, the Grand Prix supervisor in Hamburg, said yesterday: "It's a question of quality. We always want to have the best officials and experience is always desirable when dealing with potentially difficult matches."

The name of the game is controlling the match - and that means controlling the players. McEnroe is not the type of player to whom German umpires are accustomed. Like McEnroe, those umpires should welcome a little hired help from English-speaking experts.

Düsseldorf will provide

McEnroe with competitive stress on European clay immediately before the supreme clay-court test, the French championships. No American has won the French men's title since Tony Trabert did so in 1955. But McEnroe is playing the best tennis of his career, Düsseldorf will be an ideal preparation for Paris, and the players who contested last year's French final, Yannick Noah and Mats Wilander, have both been beaten here during that delightful festival, the German championships.

They say this need not mean increases in British taxation.

They say they are alone among British parties in looking for "an ever-closer union among the peoples of Europe", and they want the use of the national veto in the Council of Ministers to be severely restricted.

Conference report and manifesto, page 4



Flight to freedom: The freed British hostages stepping onto the tarmac at Johannesburg's Jan Smuts airport on the first leg of their flight home.

MPs puzzled by arrest of Heseltine aide

By Philip Webster
Political Reporter

Colleagues of Mr Keith Heseltine, the Conservative MP for Leeds North West, were saddened yesterday by the news of his resignation as parliamentary private secretary to Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence, and mystified by the circumstances surrounding it.

His resignation was offered and accepted in a telephone conversation with Mr Heseltine at lunchtime on Saturday, a few hours after the minister had learnt of Mr Heseltine's arrest 11 days ago for allegedly making an indecent assault on a plainclothes policeman in a London male strip club.

Mr Heseltine had been informed of the alleged incident at about 9.15am on Saturday by a senior official in the Defence Ministry's press department, who had been contacted by the *Sunday Telegraph* and told about the arrest, which took place in the Gay Theatre, in Soho, on May 3.

Mr Heseltine was said to have been staggered by the news. Downing Street was informed about the incident late on Friday, when unsuccessful attempts were made to contact Mr Heseltine.

Government officials were adamant yesterday that there were no security implications in the affair.

The Government, however, will be asked why Mr Heseltine was not informed sooner. It was pointed out that Mr Heseltine could have told him, and had not done so, but some MPs were saying that it was wrong and embarrassing that the Government should apparently have found out as a result of newspaper inquiries.

Scotland Yard said yesterday that there was no "formal channel" for informing government departments if MPs were arrested.

The predominant feeling among MPs yesterday was one of shock and sympathy at the predicament of Mr Heseltine, who is highly popular in the House of Commons.

Mr Heseltine, aged 40 and married, was alleged to have indecently assaulted a plainclothes policeman from Scotland Yard's club squad who was on duty with a woman colleague. He was arrested, taken to a police station and released pending a report to the Metropolitan Police solicitors' department.

Mr Heseltine said that he had resigned to avoid embarrassment to Mr Heseltine and the Government "because of personal problems resulting from one night a week or so ago when I was totally fed up and drunk far too much."

The council passed a motion supporting Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire miners in their determination to work on.

On Saturday the council informally adopted the Alliance platform for last month's European elections, jointly constructed with the Liberals.

The document argues that the real crisis of the European Community is not agricultural but industrial. The Alliance parties have no qualms about increasing community spending by first raising the value-added tax ceiling and then seeking other sources of taxation. They say this need not mean increases in British taxation.

They say they are alone among British parties in looking for "an ever-closer union among the peoples of Europe", and they want the use of the national veto in the Council of Ministers to be severely restricted.

Conference report and manifesto, page 4

TIMES

Pit strikers widen blockade to oil-fired stations

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Striking miners are intensifying their action against power stations, particularly oil-fired generating sites, and further restrictions on the movement of coal are likely.

These are the latest moves in the pit stoppage, which today enters its tenth week with a mass demonstration in Mansfield, heart of the moderate Nottinghamshire coalfield, where most miners are defying the call for industrial action.

The first results of the new campaign against power supplies were seen yesterday at Ransgate, in Kent, where more than 30 local miners were arrested on a picket line at the harbour. More than 200 pitmen gathered to prevent the transfer of 2,000 tonnes of oil from a tanker to the Ransgate power station, which was itself picketed.

The National Union of Mineworkers is calling for a maximum turnout of miners and their supporters at today's march and rally. Union leaders believe that police, who have effectively cordoned off Nottinghamshire for more than two months, will relax their roadblocks so that striking pitmen from Yorkshire, Derbyshire and other areas, can take part.

A union official last night promised "a massive show of unity", and tens of thousands of strikers could be on the streets. But the union added: "Our aim will not be to intimidate but to shame Nottinghamshire miners into joining us. Our fight is their

fight, but a lot of them do not

see that."

Mr Arthur Scargill, the miners' president, will today reaffirm his call to men in the coalfield who have been working to join the stoppage over pit closures.

Moves to step up the blockade of power stations were disclosed in a speech in Kirkcaldy on Saturday by Mr Eric Clarke, secretary of the Scottish miners.

There are further indications that the dispute is expected to run for many weeks. The National Coal Board has advised Buckingham Palace that arrangements for the Queen to open the Selby "super pit" in Yorkshire on June 25 will have to be delayed.

Striking miners and the board have reached agreement to start work today to save

Teachers' Employers make new attempt to end pay deadlock

By Colin Hughes

Employers on the teachers' pay negotiating body are expected to seek ways of breaking the deadlock in pay talks over the next few days.

Mrs Nikki Harrison, chairman of the Labour-controlled Association of Metropolitan Authorities' representatives on the employers' panel, has said that she is considering calling for a meeting of all the employers' representatives.

She could not specify possible avenues to a solution of the pay dispute, which is causing disruption to thousands of schools, but Mr Philip Merridale, chairman of the panel and leader of the dominant Conservative-controlled Association of County Councils' block, said yesterday that he would agree to any substantial proposal for fresh discussions among employers' leaders.

Mr Merridale was also more conciliatory in tone towards the teachers than he has been since they rejected a 4.5 per cent pay offer and began a work-to-rule two weeks ago. He conceded yesterday that teachers had a strong case for recognition of their professional status.

He said that teachers had written to him that they were taking action because they no longer received the public esteem they deserved.

Employers on the teachers' side, however, are suspicious of several key points, apart from the question of how much extra cash will be provided. Restructuring would introduce assessment tests for teachers before they could move on to higher salary scales, and the Government wants changes in teachers' contracts to make many voluntary duties obligatory.

"It is a view we understand," Mr Merridale said. "The tragedy is that the timing of this dispute will not help to win improvement for the 100,000 or so teachers who are stuck in a promotion cul-de-sac."

He repeated his belief that the teachers' best hopes of improving their pay lay in restructuring salary scales, and that the present action over this year's pay threatened hopes of "marketing" a restructuring package to the Government and the public.

Mr Merridale's remarks are unlikely to cut any ice with teachers' union leaders, who doubt that the Government would provide much extra money for restructuring next year. Talks on restructuring are continuing in spite of the present dispute, and both sides are keen to present the Government with proposals by the end of next month.

Whitehall recruiting shake-up urged

A radical shake-up of the Civil Service Commission and a strengthening of its 129-year-old role as a watchdog against political interference in Whitehall recruitment are recommended in an unpublished Rayner scrutiny which will be presented to ministers soon.

The investigation was carried out by Virginia Novarra, a principal officer on secondment from the Department of Trade and Industry. It found that clear responsibility for Whitehall recruitment policy was lacking, as it was split between the commission and the Management and Personnel Office (MPO).

The commission is praised as a repository of experience and a monument to incorruptibility. But the Novarra report produced a litany of shortcomings in management, motivation and accountability.

She recommends that the commission be given clear responsibility for recruitment policy. She found that greater cost effectiveness would be achieved if individual departments were charged for its services instead of getting them free, and that morale would be improved if the commission were encouraged to seek custom from quangos or departments looking for names to include on their lists of "the good and the great".

Woodland destroyed

By a Staff Reporter

The fine weather brought fire havoc to some parts of England yesterday. The drop in reservoir levels caused by the exceptionally dry spring led to a ban on garden hosepipes in south-east Wales.

About 427,000 households are affected by the ban and it is probable that similar restrictions will be imposed in north Wales next weekend. The Welsh Water Authority said yesterday: "The water that people pour on their lawns today could be their pot of tea in September."

Thousands of trees over

three square miles were destroyed by a fire in Thetford Forest, Norfolk. More than 170 firemen fought it for three hours.

Another fire at Woodbury Common, Devon, destroyed about five square miles of scrubland.

Six arrested

Detectives investigating a house fire in Glasgow in which six members of a family died arrested five men and one woman on Saturday at different addresses in the city.

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Lords plea to boost EEC coal production

By Frances Williams

Strong support for continuing Britain's advanced gas-cooled nuclear reactor programme (AGRs) and for greater investment in European and especially British coal production comes in a report on EEC energy policy published yesterday by the House of Lords Select Committee on the European Communities.

The committee speaks of the dangers of European over-reliance on the pressurised water reactor (PWR) technology for nuclear electricity generation - the design used for almost all the newly-built reactors in other EEC countries and adopted in a controversial decision by the British Government for the proposed Sizewell B station in Suffolk.

To rely only on PWRs could have one grave disadvantage, the committee argues. "If even one PWR should have an accident or repeat the incident at Three Mile Island, public opinion might swing against the whole nuclear programme."

The only proven alternative is the British-designed AGR of the type now operating at Hinkley Point, Somerset, on separate sides of the management panel, are looking for a way of bringing union leaders back to the negotiating table without loss of face on either side.

If the employers do meet, their next step would be to approach the pay body's independent chairman, Sir John Wardie, asking him to reconvene the full Burnham Committee for renewed talks.

'Scandal' of low church membership

The falling membership in the Church of Scotland is the sign of a "serious breakdown within the life of the Church" and a "scandal".

The General Assembly of the Church of Scotland will be told in a report called *Towards a national programme for Evangelism* that the "tragic loss" of young people in the Church, is not simply a serious concern for the future of the Church, but a serious charge against a church which received children in baptism and failed to nurture their faith to maturity discipline.

Suggested reforms include:

- The commission should be responsible for overall recruitment policy and should assume control within six months if possible.
- Costs should be assessed by making departments pay for services.
- More recruitment research and a vigorous attempt to cut down staff wastage.
- The commission's funding should be separated from that of MPO so that it could run more like a business and become more efficient, effective and accountable.

The constitutional position of the commission was outside her terms of reference. But she found its independence could be more secure and recommended that a separate investigation be undertaken.

The report claims that the breakdown within the Church stems from a lack of real conviction regarding the meaning of the Church and "it is symptomatic of the fact that we do not 'believe' in the Church operating within the economy of salvation".

The report says the present situation is one of administrative and pastoral breakdown, and "the church's scandal is that of its missing members".

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First refusal: A pair of blacks at the Royal Windsor Horse Show needing some encouragement to enter the water hazard. (Photographs: Ian Stewart).

Credit card firms urged to pay Laker fare bills

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Sir Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, has stepped into a long-running dispute over reimbursing travellers who lost money in the collapse of Laker Airways.

He is pressing particularly Barclaycard, the credit card subsidiary of Barclays Bank, to accept full legal liability for losses where credit card payment was involved.

More than two years after the Laker collapse, about 2,700 loss claims, amounting to about £1m, are believed to be outstanding, from an initial 52,600 claims involving about £9m. Perhaps half of the outstanding claims involve credit card transactions.

Many earlier claims have been met by travel industry bonding arrangements, or the Air Travel Reserve Fund, which steps in when bonds deposited by a tour operator prove insufficient to meet losses.

But differences arose between credit card companies such as Access and Barclaycard and the Tour Operators Study Group

traveller's loss, even if only part of the transaction were paid by credit card.

Attempts by the Civil Aviation Authority to agree a charter with the card companies, the tour operators' group and the reserve fund to meet all claims on a "rough justice" payments basis have so far failed.

One of Sir Gordon's anxieties is that, if the situation cannot be clarified, travellers affected by a travel company collapse in the future could be even more exposed. There have been increasing worries that there might be too big a drain on the reserve fund's resources.

Barclaycard has made one new move. It is renegotiating terms with tour operators on card payments for holidays, insisting that the operators should have approved insurance cover to ensure cardholders are reimbursed for any losses.

That raises the question of how far consumers may eventually foot the bill for several layers of protection.

Solicitors split on advertising charges

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Proposals to allow advertising by solicitors provided it does not bring the profession into disrepute are expected to receive a stormy reception when they are debated before Law Society leaders in London next week.

The proposals, by a Law Society working party, envisage the possibility of solicitors advertising their charges.

On balance the view of England and Wales's 48,000 solicitors, particularly younger ones, is thought to favour the proposals as a necessary move in the fight to counter competition from banks, building societies and non-solicitor conveyancers when government proposals to end the conveyancing monopoly become law.

But some of the profession's older members are still opposed to any form of advertising, even to large displays of a firm's name outside the office, on the ground, as one put it, that "the best advertisement is the personal recommendation of a satisfied client".

The proposals will be debated at a meeting of local Law Society presidents and secretaries, and council members on May 23. They then go to the Law Society Council in June.

Mr Robert King, chairman of the working party on advertising, said he was hopeful that the proposals would be adopted.

"We believe we detect a sea change in the profession on this issue."

Another council member said that from visits to several local law societies he thought that solicitors were divided. "Some say we must allow advertising immediately. Others argue we must not move in this direction too quickly".

A third council member, Mr

Colin Evans

Marie Payne: Lorry driver is remanded

A lorry driver, Mr Colin James Evans, aged 44, appeared in court at Barking, Essex, on Saturday charged with the murder of Marie Payne, aged four.

Mr Evans, of Russell Street, Reading, was remanded in custody until Wednesday. Police confirmed officially that the body found in Epping Forest on Friday was that of Marie Payne. She disappeared from her home at Dagenham, Essex, 15 months ago.

The child's parents, Brenda and John Payne, were out in court. They had been advised by the police to keep away because it was felt the proceedings would be too upsetting for them.

Detectives were digging in the back garden of a house in Western Elms Avenue, Reading on Saturday. The house is divided into bedsitters.

Flavour main factor for tea drinkers

By John Young

More than 70 per cent of all the tea we drink is now made from tea-bags, according to a new survey by Taylor Nelson and Associates. The trend is likely to continue, as those who prefer the traditional loose-packed leaves are mainly older people.

But flavour is still seen as the most important factor, and price the least important, the survey shows.

Tea is regarded as more refreshing than coffee and a more suitable family drink, but coffee is more stimulating and convenient and more "socially acceptable" when entertaining.

To the relief of the hard-pressed dairy industry, most people still take milk to both tea and coffee, but sugar has become suspect on health grounds.

The British Sugar Corporation, which is the monopoly buyer for all home-produced beet, is launching a new £1,000,000 advertising campaign "to give sugar its proper recognition".

Unrefined brown sugars have gained a steadily increasing share of the declining market.

Doctors meet to review test-tube baby research

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Doctors who have pioneered the test-tube baby technique, enabling infertile women to give birth successfully to more than 2,500 babies worldwide, meet this week to report progress in their research since the first child resulted from fertilization of a human egg outside the body on July 25, 1978.

The conference in Helsinki is essentially a medical research forum to review the technical options presented by the procedure - and particularly the storage of frozen embryos and embryo transfers involving donors.

The blockage or absence of the normal passageway for an egg to be transported from the ovary to the uterus - the cause of infertility - is estimated to occur in more than one million women in Britain, the United States, Australia and the European countries in which *in vitro* fertilization has become regarded as an established medical technique.

Banker's inquest to open

Parent management of schools proposed

By Colin Hughes

their child to enter a preferred school.

The institute says it would mean less successful schools having a "considerable incentive to raise standards and reduce costs in order to attract students". Schools with particular selection and independence within the state sector. Its document is known to be close to ministerial thinking.

The institute suggests that new boards, with a majority of parents and non-voting seats for the head teachers, teachers and local community representatives, would have broad powers to decide school curriculum, disciplinary measures and teachers' salaries.

The most radical proposal is for schools to be financed through a fixed grant for each pupil attending the school. Schools would be free to recruit new pupils and compete for applications from parents for

Deafness in pupils unnoticed

More than 500,000 pupils are suffering learning difficulties because their deafness goes unnoticed, the National Deaf Children's Society says.

The society says in a statement published today that local research studies over the past two years suggest that the national problem of children who are "deaf and not deaf" is more widespread than is yet recognized.

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Bomb blast husband accused of murder

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

Police yesterday charged Graham Backhouse with the attempted murder of his wife, Margaret, aged 37, and the murder of his neighbour, Mr Colin Bedale-Taylor.

He will face magistrates at Yale, near Bristol, today. It is understood he was arrested on Saturday night.

The charges came after a month of intense police inquiries in Horton, near Bristol, into the incident in which Mrs Backhouse was severely injured by a car bomb as she reversed into the family estate car out of the garage.

Three weeks later Mr Bedale-Taylor, aged 63, a retired police officer, died of two gunshot wounds he suffered at Mr Backhouse's 350-acre Widden Hill Farm.

Police had kept a constant watch on the farm since the bombing, which had been preceded by a hate campaign of anonymous telephone calls and poison pen letters apparently directed against Mr and Mrs Backhouse.

On one occasion the severed head of a lamb was discovered impaled on a farm fence post with a note underneath saying: "You next."

Last week Mrs Backhouse left a Bristol hospital, where she had undergone two major operations, to stay with her parents at Sedgley, near Wolverhampton.

Mr Backhouse, aged 43, issued a statement saying he needed to rest and did not wish to speak to anyone after leaving the hospital where he had been taken with knife wounds in the face suffered on the night Mr Bedale-Taylor died.

Nail gun found

A 200-year-old cast iron gun like a small cannon has been found embedded in the trunk of a tree at Rougham, Norfolk. The gun loaded with nails and ball bearings, was used to shoot poachers

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Rights of the
citizen

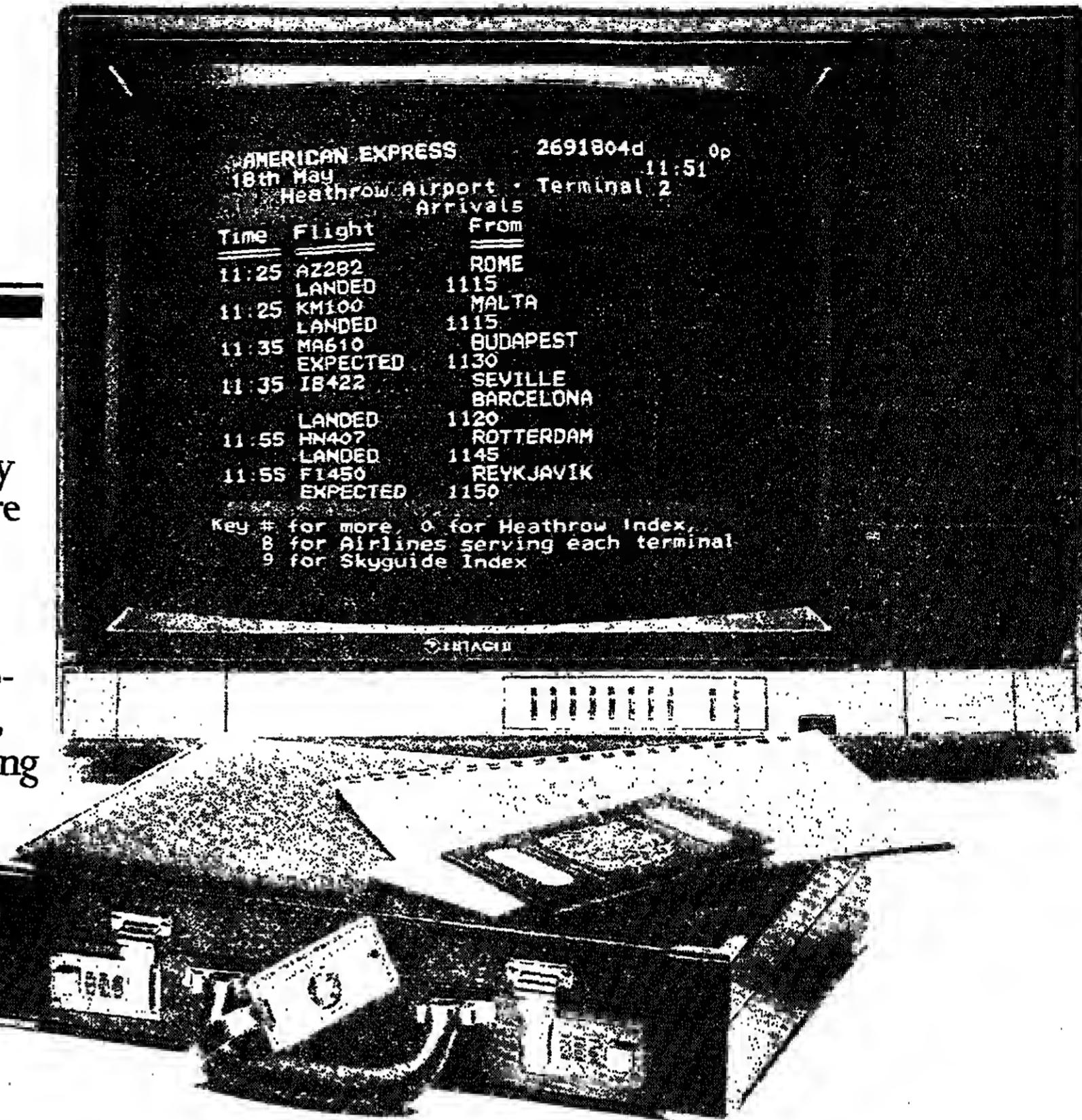
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The technological revolution in direct marketing has begun and the National Networks division of British Telecom is busy providing the communications links that are vital to its progress.

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SkyGuide works 24 hours

SkyGuide block diagram: PSS data links provide the airport connections



a day, 365 days a year. It monitors some 700,000 aircraft movements a year, covering around 57 million passengers. Prestel subscribers can access this valuable information for just 10p plus the cost of a local telephone call. And they are currently doing so 100,000 times a month.

The ingenious SkyGuide programme has won awards from the British Computer Society for applications, and from the European Direct Marketing Association for an outstanding contribution to the direct marketing of high-tech products.

It enables the American Express viewdata computer in Brighton to monitor and reproduce in a standard format flight information that appears in disparate forms at each airport. Both data integrity and overall cost dictated

the choice of Packet SwitchStream for the vital link between the airports and Brighton.

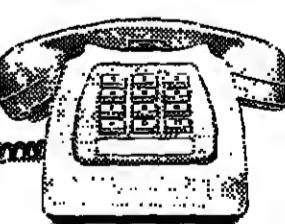
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*SkyGuide is the business name of American Express Flight Information Display Service.

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Bodies of bus hijackers exhumed by Israeli commission of inquiry

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

The bodies of two of the four young Palestinians killed after they hijacked an Israeli civilian bus a month ago have been exhumed from graves in the occupied Gaza Strip, in preparation for official autopsies ordered by the Defence Ministry commission investigating the mysterious cause of their deaths.

The commission was appointed after mounting pressure from politicians and the press sparked by widespread speculation inside Israel that one or both men may have been killed by members of the security forces after being captured alive and led away after the bus was stormed. The two other hijackers were killed instantly in the fight and their bodies were carried off the vehicle.

The controversy caused by the disclosure of the existence of photographs showing two of the hijackers being led away from the crippled bus has been overtaken by the political storm resulting from the uncovering of a Jewish terrorist underground organization allegedly responsible for a four-year campaign against Arabs in the occupied West Bank.

Apart from news about the exhumations, very little has been released about the work of the two-man investigation commission, which headed by reserve General Meir Zorea. It is a ministerial affair and the publication of all or any of its findings is solely dependent on the decision of Mr Moshe Arens, the Defence Minister, who appointed it.

Last week, Mr Arens was roundly criticized by Ha'aretz, Israel's leading independent

Three killed by troops

Tel Aviv (Reuter) — A Lebanese civilian was shot dead yesterday when the lorry he was driving exploded during an Israeli raid deep in Sidon. Military sources said soldiers running the roadblock opened fire after the driver failed to obey their order to stop.

In another incident two Palestinian guerrillas were killed in a clash with an Israeli patrol west of Hebron in the West Bank, an Israeli Army spokesman said. The men were said to be armed with antitank weapons and hand grenades and may have come from Jordan.

newspaper, for the slow working of the commission, which was only set up two weeks after the incident it is investigating. Subsequently he pledged in a speech that its report would be completed soon, but did not commit himself to a time.

It is known that senior Cabinet members are worried about the effect that a verdict against the Israeli security forces could have on the lives of the handful of Israeli prisoners now in the hands of fringe Palestinian groups.

This argument has been successfully used by the Government to prevent sections of the Israeli press from printing all the details which they gathered about the case. One newspaper, *Hadashot*, was suspended for four days for

even revealing that the commission had been set up.

Although names were not given yesterday, it is reliably understood that the name of one of the two Arabs whose body has been exhumed is Majdi Abu Jumaa, aged 18, who was picked up by a photographer from *Hadashot* and left alive and well from the bus in the custody of two security men in civilian clothing.

The dramatic photograph, which is of good quality and shows apparent head wounds on the hijacker, has never been published in a clash with an Israeli patrol west of Hebron in the West Bank, an Israeli Army spokesman said. The men were said to be armed with antitank weapons and hand grenades and may have come from Jordan.

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Rockets hit Beirut as Cabinet splits

From Our Correspondent Beirut

Deadly mortar and artillery exchanges rocked Beirut over the weekend as Christian and Muslim ministers in the new Cabinet were reported to be divided over two sensitive issues: reorganization of the Lebanese Army and relations with Israel.

The fighting started late on Saturday afternoon along the Green Line that bisects the city, and escalated after dark to enclose a widely spread residential neighbourhood. Police said that 18 people were killed and at least 70 were wounded in areas as disparate as Ramlet el-Baida, a Muslim neighbourhood south-west of the Capital, and Dibayeh, a Christian community more than 10 miles to the east.

Fighting resumed yesterday with heavy rocket barrages on the Christian Elia Rumanneh neighbourhood adjacent to the Green Line killing one man and injuring two women. Retaliatory fire kept some families in west Beirut in basements.

Lebanese militiamen often express their displeasure over political issues by shooting and the weekend battles were believed to have stemmed from disagreements at the first two Cabinet sessions last Thursday.

The Cabinet, under the Prime Minister, Mr Rafik Hariri, did manage to agree on the broad outlines of its policy agenda, which must be submitted



Wreckage of war: Rescue workers examining the shell of a car in west Beirut.

to Parliament for a vote of confidence.

religious factions in Lebanon — with a rotating chief.

The Christians argue for the status quo.

Mr Berri hinted during his weekend news conference that a Cabinet-ordered study of the Israeli "liaison office" still operating east of Beirut would result in its closure. Such a move is opposed by the right-wing Christian "Lebanese forces" militia, which has

received arms and training from Israel.

As the military and political

disagreements erupted, hundreds of west Beirut children joined a march for peace on Saturday. Their parade, which stretched for six blocks along the Hamra district shopping street, drew applause from onlookers and showers of rice — a traditional Lebanese greeting — from people on balconies.

Insurgents kill priest in Uganda ambush

Kampala (AP) — A French Roman Catholic priest, Father Joseph-Marie Mailard, died in a Kampala hospital at the weekend after being shot by unidentified gunmen north-west of the capital last Thursday.

Church officials said Father Mailard was delivering food to substitute parsons near Mityana, about 40 miles outside Kampala, when gunmen shot at him.

Areas north and west of Kampala have been insecure because of clashes between government troops and guerrillas fighting against President Milton Obote.

Mitterrand low in poll ratings

Paris (AP) — President Mitterrand has received the lowest approval rating in the republic's 26-year history, according to a poll conducted for the weekly *Journal de Dimanche*. Only 30 per cent of those questioned were "satisfied" while 54 per cent said they were "dissatisfied" with his performance.

Italians smash peace camps

Rome — Italian police have dismantled three peace camps on the outskirts of the US cruise missile base at Comiso in Sicily and arrested nine people, including a British woman (John Earle writes).

She was named as Jill Allison Howard, aged 21. The others were Gillian Smith, aged 26 from New Zealand, Vicki Wise aged 20 from Australia, three West Germans and three Italian men.

Civilian rule

Bissau (AFP) — Guinea-Bissau is set to return to civilian rule today with the military ruler for the past three and a half years, General Joao Bernardo Vieira, expected to become constitutional head of state.

Duel challenge

Montevideo (AFP) — The former Uruguayan Vice-President, Señor Alberto Abdala, has challenged a journalist to a duel for writing an article about him which he considered offensive. Duelling is not illegal in Uruguay.

Citroen sit-in

Aulnay-Sous-Bois, France (AP) — Militant workers occupied the plant for the third day yesterday in a protest over planned reductions in the workforce.

Major shot

Guaiacima City (AP) — An Army major was shot dead in an ambush while driving on a highway leading to the capital.

£15m draw

New York (AP) — Record sales helped push the biggest lottery jackpot in north American history to \$221.65m as last-minute players lined up to buy tickets. No one has picked the winning six-number combination in the last three draws.

Dog's delight

Nice (AP) — The pampered rich of the Côte d'Azur now have a gourmet restaurant for dogs, featuring three-course meals costing up to £10 and served on real china.

King's wreath

Moscow (AP) — King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia of Spain visited the metro and laid a wreath at the tomb of the unknown soldier in the Soviet central Asian city of Tashkent yesterday.

Tug of woe

Lenzburg, Switzerland (AP) — An attempt by 880 people to set a record for the tug-of-war ended in chaos and injury when the 350-yard, one-inch nylon rope broke, snapping through the crowd and injuring 24 people.

Pasok declares its radical allegiance

the triumphant welcome he's given in the pro-Government press last year when he returned from Russia after 35 years of exile, implied regret that the Communists under his leadership had not won the civil war.

Constantine Mitsotakis, chief spokesman for the opposition Conservatives, drew attention to this new face of Pasok which, he said, "now emerges as a *revanchiste* movement out to punish the democratic parties for having won the civil war".

To this generation of Greeks, of course, anti-Americanism is daily bread and butter. They are firmly convinced that had it not been for the Truman doctrine which poured arms and money into Greece between 1946-49, they might still have won.

Pasok's platform is consistent with these attitudes. But, after two and a half years in power, the Papandreu administration has shown enough pragmatism not to rock the boat at least over issues directly relevant to the country's military and economic security.

Fear haunts Filipino voters

From David Watts, San Miguel, Tarlac, Philippines

The feeling of hope that Senator Benigno Aquino's death might bring political change to his home province of Tarlac is gone.

Instead there is fear and intimidation of voters. There is none of the festive air that usually lights up Filipinos at election time and brings a determination to opposition movement in Manila two hours' drive to the south.

The opposition candidate campaigning from San Miguel, Mr Yap, has cabled the authorities in Manila calling for the arrest of officers from the

civilian home defence forces who have been going from house to house, armed with M16 rifles, threatening people who show no enthusiasm for the ruling New Society Movement (KBL).

This is the first election held since martial law was lifted. But the people's fears are still there. You can see the psychological effect.

"You can't blame them, they're *barrio* people. These soldiers are assigned here. They're supposed to protect these people. How can they disobey their orders?" said

US attack on Soviet boycott

From Mohsin Ali Washington

Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, has attacked the Soviet Union sharply for its withdrawal from the Los Angeles Olympics and its treatment of Andrei Sakharov, the dissident physicist.

The Soviet decision to boycott the Los Angeles Olympics was completely unjustified. It surprised and clearly dismayed even their closest allies.

Mr Shultz told a business council in Hot Springs, Virginia on Saturday.

Mr Shultz commented that the allegations on which the Russians ostensibly based their decision were "flimsy and false". He added that the United States had met all its obligations under the Olympic charter and had bent over backwards to meet the Russians' legitimate concerns.

Those included assurances that there would be no anti-Soviet demonstrations in the Olympic facilities and villages, and the granting of permission for charter flights by the Soviet airline, Aeroflot.

Mr Shultz said that the Russians were trying to "drag their allies into isolation with them" by forcing them to boycott the games.

He also criticized the Soviet decision to walk out of the nuclear arms control talks late last year.

After Dr Sakharov tried to help his wife to go to the West for medical treatment the Russians cut him off from the outside world, bringing false charges against his wife and even refusing to allow her to go to Moscow. His life was being trifled with and the whole world must be concerned. Mr Shultz said.

Mr Shultz said that President Reagan's visit to China last month proved that the United States could maintain cooperative relations with societies ideologically very different from itself.

LOS ANGELES: China will attend this summer's Olympics, games officials announced (Reuter reports). They had previously refused to disclose which countries had formally agreed to take part, saying that it was inappropriate to do so in advance of a deadline for acceptance on June 2. Taiwan will also compete.

VIENNA: Afghanistan has decided not to attend the games.

Scaring off the Russian bear

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles

While most of Los Angeles continues to mourn the Soviet decision not to compete in the Olympic Games this summer, one group here is euphoric. The Ban the Soviets Coalition, an amalgam of ethnic, émigré and right-wing American anti-communist groups, was taking delighted credit for the Soviet pull-out.

"We were eyeball to eyeball with the Soviets, and the Russian bear not only blinked, it turned tail and ran," said Mr Valdis Pavlovs, president of the Balto-American Freedom League, a coalition member.

Mr David Balsiger, director of the coalition, agreed: "We are the 'moving force,' no doubt behind the Soviets' not coming."

They are convinced that the Russians made their decision for fear of mass defections from their Olympic team once they were exposed to freedom, California-style. The problem, as one leading American columnist put it, was "keeping them in Murmansk after they've seen Malibu".

They bad also planned to distribute some 500,000 leaflets, and arranged for demonstrations by some 10,000

protesters against the Russians.

Mr Balsiger said confidently: "We expected from one hundred to two hundred defectors."

There is little doubt the Soviet Union was well aware of their activities. Its apparent failure to get an assurance from the US State Department that Americans would not accept defectors certainly must have played a part in the decision announced by Tass last week.

A State Department spokesman explained: "If they expected us to join them in some kind of police state they were out of luck."

The Ban the Soviets Coalition, hitherto regarded as part of California's lunatic fringe, is taking full advantage of its moment in the spotlight and claiming moral victory, said Tony Mazelka of the Baltic American Freedom League.

By withdrawing from the games "the Soviets have admitted they do not command the loyalty of their own people — not their coaches, not their coaches, not even their KGB spies".

Kaunda tries to save Namibia conference

Lusaka (Reuter) — President Kaunda of Zambia was locked in negotiations yesterday in an attempt to salvage an acrimonious all-party conference on Namibia (South West African) independence.

Conference sources said that President Kaunda and his co-chairman, Mr Willie van Niekerk, South Africa's Administrator-General for Namibia, hoped to find enough common ground between opposing delegations to justify a joint final communiqué.

The closed-door conference has brought together the black nationalist guerrilla movement Swapo (South West Africa People's Organization), a South African delegation led by Mr van Niekerk, and representatives of Namibia's internal parties.

Talks were extended into a third unscheduled day with Swapo giving warning of the danger of collapse because of intransigence by the internal parties.

The guerrilla group has been fighting a bush campaign for nearly 18 years for the independence of Namibia, which South Africa rules in defiance of the United Nations.

The internal parties, fostered by Pretoria as an alternative to

Iran poll results annulled

By Hazzie Telmissani

Iran's Council of Guardians, an assembly of senior theologians which supervises elections and vets Parliamentary Bills for adherence to Islamic rules, declared in Tehran yesterday that it had nullified the election results of 20 parliamentary constituencies obtained on April 15. This was the first round of elections to Iran's Islamic Majlis (Parliament). The final round will be held on Thursday, May 17.

Hajjatehslam Enami Kashani, a spokesman for the Elections Supervisory Commission of the Council, told Tehran Radio's home news service that the elections in those constituencies had taken place in an "unprecedented atmosphere" and that their winners would therefore be "unpersons" if allowed to enter the Majlis building as members of parliament.

BAHRAM: A Kuwaiti tanker passing through the Gulf off its waters from Kuwait to Bahrain with more than 76,000 tonnes of fuel oil aboard was hit yesterday by a missile fired from a warplane, its owners said.

Mr Nujoma: Swapo leader gives a warning

Greece vetoes deployment of Nato missiles

From Maria Modiano Athens

Only two guests at the first congress of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement (Pasok) which closed in Athens last night, drew ovations that recalled the party's charismatic leader and Prime Minister. They were "General" Markos Vafiadis, veteran commander of the defeated Communist insurgents in the Greek civil war, and Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian leader.

Each reflected an important facet of Pasok's emerging identity. If the congress, long overdue for a ten-year-old party, served any purpose other than to confirm Pasok as a one-man party, this was to allow its true ideology to come to the surface. After 30 months in power the Greek Socialists feel confident

Insurgents
kill prime
ambassador

Mitterrand
in poll rating

Italians stage
peace camps

Civilian rule
Duel challenge
Citroen site
Major shot
£15m draw
Dog's delight
King's wreath
King of woe
allegiance

Greece scores diplomatic victory at UN over Cyprus

From Zorion Pykaris, New York

The UN Security Council has adopted its most strongly-worded resolution to date on efforts by the Turkish Cypriot community to consolidate its rule in the self-proclaimed state in the north of the island. It also spared little censure against Turkey as the occupying power.

After more than a week of heated debate on the subject, the council gave the Greek side a strong diplomatic victory and condemned "secessionist actions" in Cyprus, including the exchange of ambassadors

between the Turkish Cypriots and Turkey.

The United States abstained from the vote as an expression of newly-crystallized policy of cultivating Turkey for its strategic usefulness in the Gulf and Middle East conflicts.

Pakistan, which 13 countries including Britain gave their support.

But, despite the clear message sent by the Council that further measures to partition Cyprus will not be tolerated, members of the council saw a negotiated settlement between the two sides as "moving quickly and inexorably out of reach".

Mr Rauf Denktaş, the Turkish Cypriot leader, warned the council that its imprudent moves could kill the mediation efforts of Senator Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary-General, who has once again been given the task of picking up the pieces. The consensus is that the Turkish side will continue to consolidate its unilateral independence.

• Ankara: Turkey said yesterday that the resolution ran against hopes that Cyprus's problems could be solved by recognizing the legal rights of both its communities (Reuter reports) Leading article, page 15

Mothers allowed to visit Turkish jails

From Rıfat Gürdilek, Ankara

A Mother's Day meeting yesterday between 920 political prisoners in Ankara and their mothers or children is seen here as indicating an improvement in the harsh conditions which led to a 45-day hunger strike earlier this year.

Prisoners in the Mamak military jail were allowed 20 minutes to meet their families, without iron bars or wire netting, sitting across tables in the prison yard.

Officials said that the same opportunity was granted to the inmates of military jails in Istanbul. But some reports said that hundreds of relatives of 226 prisoners on a hunger strike since April 11 in the Metris and Sıhhiye military jails in Istanbul had threatened to stage a hunger strike in protest at the refusal of their requests to visit the hunger strikers.

Turkish and foreign journalists were allowed to cover the Mamak prison visit. A statement released by the

European Notebook

UK seeks to polish its tarnished image

Taking advantage of the lull in the EEC budget negotiations, Britain has been trying to polish up its European image. Despite persistent cries of injured innocence, Britain has never been able to convince public opinion in the rest of Europe that it has a real European commitment.

Belgian newspapers last week were not slow to draw a parallel between the behaviour of Spurs fans wrecking Brussels and British governments wrecking the Community.

There can be no doubt that this preoccupation makes it all the more difficult for Mrs Thatcher to negotiate with her naturally abrasive style. Britain is not so much plaintiff in the case as a defendant in the dock.

This last week saw Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Transport Minister, launching another well-prepared campaign to slash the exorbitant price of European air fares. It is a popular campaign with the European public, even if it is anathema to many member states who are frightened to open their national flag carriers to price competition.

Mr Ridley tried to make out it was just coincidence that British Airways and KLM between them had agreed to slash London-Amsterdam return fares to just £49; even though he must have been aware of the negotiations which made it all possible.

But with the prospect of a price war in the air, the Transport Council did agree (at last) to set up a working group to study liberalizing air services and it may even report back by the end of the year. That is further than Britain itself was able to go when it was last in the EEC council chair, even though it had made the question one of its urgent priorities.

Transport generally is a subject where Britain is very keen to show how European it is. It is not very expensive to the budget and supporting measures like cheaper fares and easier border crossings are popular with the public.

It is also very European. The Treaty of Rome actually has one more article about a common transport policy than it has about a common agricultural policy. Add to that

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OVERSEAS NEWS

7

New attitude to food production

Why the rising price of rice has sown the seeds of capitalism

In the first of three articles on Vietnam, David Watts, South-East Asia Correspondent, describes how the need to grow more rice has made ideological purity a less immediate concern.

Professor Tran Phuong

smiles mischievously as he admits that good old-fashioned capitalism is playing an important role in the rehabilitation of Vietnamese agriculture.

Contract incentive schemes

have improved rice production

by about 50 per cent since they were introduced and there are tentative efforts to offer the same extra rewards on the industrial side of the economy.

Professor Phuong, who is

vice-chairman of the council

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Thirty years of war left

Vietnamese agriculture exhausted

or destroyed with half a

million hectares uncultivated

and with a formerly extensive

rice exporter reduced to being a

chronically dependent importer

from the United States. Since

1975 the need to get basic food

production up to self-sufficiency levels has persuaded

those with a more pragmatic

outlook to try methods which

are anathema to large sections

of the Communist Party of

Vietnam.

Contract incentive schemes

have improved rice production

by about 50 per cent since they were introduced and there are tentative efforts to offer the same extra rewards on the industrial side of the economy.

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Curfew as Hindu mobs protest at killing of editor by Sikh gunmen

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Sikh extremists shot and killed a newspaper editor in the troubled state of Punjab at the weekend. Two years ago they shot his father.

Mr Ramesh Chander, aged 55, who took over the reins of the Hind Samachar newspaper group after the death of his father, died when his car was ambushed by three assassins in the centre of the town in broad daylight.

The Hindu population of Jullundur reacted immediately. Bazaars closed the mobs refused to let the police near to take Mr Chander's body away. A curfew was declared in the town until this morning.

Mr Chander was the third editor killed in Punjab this year. Mr Sukhraj Singh, editor of an extreme left-wing newspaper was shot by two Sikhs who called at his home in Gurdaspur in April. Mr Sumit Singh, editor of one of the oldest Punjabi monthly *Picar-Lari*, was shot and killed two months before at his home near Amritsar.

Journalists have been targets of the Sikh gunmen ever since Mr Chander's father, Mr Lala Jagat Narain, was murdered as he was driving home.

Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, the fundamentalist leader of the Sikh militants, was accused of complicity in Mr Narain's murder and arrested. He was released only after riots in which 21 people died, and

after the intervention of the central Government.

Sant Bhindranwale then took refuge in the Golden Temple of Amritsar and has not left it since.

Mr Narain's other son, Mr Vijay Chopra told me recently: "Since my father was killed we have all had police bodyguards. The police are now telling us we should have two gunmen each."

His brother had two gunmen in his car when he died. The bodyguards given to people who have appeared on a so-called hit list prepared by Sant Bhindranwale's followers have not been able to prevent several quite public murders.

The head of the Delhi Sikh temple committee was assassinated in a busy street in the capital a few weeks ago although a bodyguard was in his car, and the former deputy police chief of Amritsar had two bodyguards killed by his attackers before he and his family were wiped out.

Even Mr Chander's son, Mr Ashwini Kumar, who is Delhi editor of one of the Samachar group newspapers, and who also appears on the hit list, found himself suddenly without protection recently when angry trade unionists pursuing an industrial dispute in his office snatched his bodyguard's sten gun. He got it back only after much difficulty.

Reporters covering the Sikh

disturbances have been manhandled and threatened.

A reporter for one Hindu newspaper was stabbed in the thigh as he was leaving the Golden Temple in Amritsar recently.

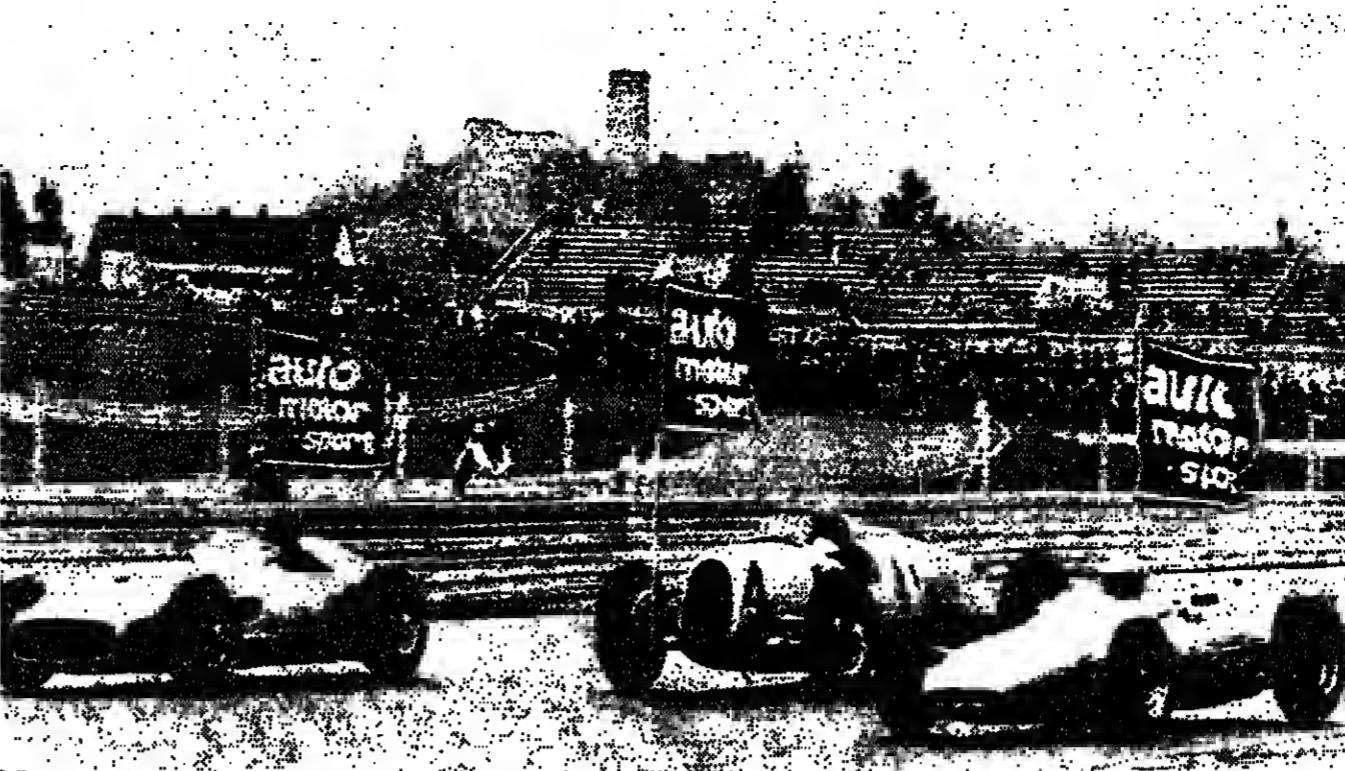
Mr Chander Mohan, editor of *Vir Pratap*, also based in Jullundur said: "The bravest press in the country happens to be based in Punjab. Our colleagues in other parts of the country face threats from the Government or the police, but we in Punjab are under pressure from people who are beyond reason or logic. They deny our stories by sending parcel bombs."

Vir Pratap received two explosive parcels last year. The two clerks who opened them were killed.

• Bush arrives: Mr George Bush, United States Vice-President flew into Delhi to an unenthusiastic welcome.

He referred to discussions including differences between the United States and India but added that the values, traditions and interests which the two countries held in common "far outweigh any difference we might have".

The Indians are upset with American policies especially because of what they see as the rearming of Pakistan with modern weapons and the favoured treatment being given to China.



Nostalgia time: Veteran racing cars on the new Nurburgring race track at the inaugural event on Saturday.

Past and future meet at Nurburgring

From John Blinnsden

Altenahr, West Germany

Ayrton Senna, the young Brazilian driver, won the first race to be held at the new Nurburgring at the weekend, snatching victory from a strong field which included former world champions Sir Jack Brabham, Phil Hill, John Surtees, Denis Hulme, Nikki Lauda, James Hunt, Jody Scheckter, Alan Jones and Keke Rosberg.

Senna took the first place from Lauda by a margin of 1.38 seconds. Scheckter recorded the fastest lap on the damp track at just under 76 miles. Senna, who took command of the

12-lap race from the start, was one of 20 drivers competing in identical Mercedes-Benz 190E 2.3-16 saloons, which have been developed in collaboration with Cosworth Engineering of Northampton. These had just been put into production in West Germany.

Typical Eifel weather - drizzle, fanned by a biting cold wind - failed to dampen the impact which the new circuit (which is located alongside the old) has made on West German motorsport enthusiasts. Over 50,000 people helped to clog the roads surrounding the circuit.

They witnessed a day-long pro-

gramme of events which in the main emphasized the past, but on a circuit which emphatically represents the future with its wide open spaces, ample run-off areas and abundant high-mounted grandstands.

Saturday was a day of deep nostalgia, with many great names from the past including Manfred von Brauchitsch and René Dreyfus (both turned 80), Herman Lang, Pero Taruffi, Juan Manuel Fangio and Karl Kling, all in their 70s, being brought together with relative youngsters like Stirling Moss, aged 54, to take part in parade of racing machinery.

Scientists make ass of old skull

From Harry Debelius

Madrid

An international symposium on the earliest man-like creature thought to have inhabited the Eurasian land mass was called off at the last minute because some scientists are trying to make an ass out of "Orce man", according to reports published here yesterday.

The three-day symposium, originally scheduled to begin in Granada, on May 28, under the sponsorship of the regional government of Andalusia, was to have centred on discoveries last year at a site in Orce, near Granada, where an ancient skull fragment was found. It was originally identified as coming from a hominid creature which dwelt there about 1.3 million years ago. That was earlier than any previous find in Europe or Asia.

The creature was dubbed "Orce man". However, after a long process of removing calcium deposits from the interior surface, which ended only last month, careful study revealed a "Crest" or ridge which raised doubts in some experts' minds about the type of animal to which it belonged. Some scientist argued that such a crest was more characteristic of the jackass or its ancestors than of man.

The director of the archaeological team which made the discovery and is continuing to excavate at the site, Señor Josep Gibert of the Institute of Palaeontology at Sabadell in eastern Spain, said tests and studies of the find are continuing, and he maintained that, despite the doubts cast by some of his colleagues, the probability that the creature was a hominid is still 25-1.



President Zia: Regime under fire

Tamil prisoners call for release of US couple

From Donovan Moldrich, Colombo

A search was being conducted yesterday by the Army, Navy, Air Force and police in the northern province and 13 islands for the American couple, Mr Stanley Bryson Allen and his wife, Mary Elizabeth, who were kidnapped by Tamil rebels. The rebels have threatened to kill them by noon today if their demands for the release of 20 prisoners and 50 million rupees in gold (£1.4m) are not met through the Tamil Nadu Government in Madras.

The State-owned Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation broadcast appeals yesterday by a Roman Catholic priest, Father Aparanam Singaray, and an university teacher, Mrs Nirmala Nithyanantha, who are two of the 20 prisoners. They asked the rebels who are holding the American couple to release them immediately and not to harm them.

Father Singaray also said in his appeal that the kidnapping would only harm the cause for which it was intended.

President J. R. Jayewardene sent a message to President Reagan yesterday expressing the hope that the international community would be able to eradicate terrorism, which was a serious threat to those who believed in democracy.

The President, who is due to meet Mr Reagan in Washington on June 18 outlined the steps that were being taken to secure the release of the couple.

The Minister of National Security, Mr Lalith Athulathmudali told journalists yesterday that an unknown person had handed a note to the Assistant Government Agent at Jaffna reiterating the rebels threat to kill the couple if the ransom demands were not met.

• Tamils' statement: In Madras the press office of a Tamil secessionist group said that Mr Allen and his wife were "well treated just now." Their whereabouts were not known (AP Reports).

Immigration uproar

From Tony Dubouin, Melbourne

The bipartisan approach to Australia's immigration policy, which has lasted virtually since large-scale immigration started soon after the Second World War, is in tatters after a week of change and counter-change in the federal Parliament.

Asian immigration is now almost certain to be a key issue in the next federal elections, likely to be called ahead of schedule at the end of this year or early next.

The furore hit the headlines last Tuesday when Mr Andrew Peacock, leader of the Oppo-

sition, called for a balance between the number of Asians and European and British people coming to Australia. He said there would be no bipartisan approach to the issue until that balance was achieved. His call indicated a change in direction by the Opposition.

Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, responded by calling for rationality and tolerance. However, he did little to calm the waters, by saying that the intake of family-reunion immigrants from Asia would increase as a "statistical inevitability".

Pakistan martial law 'less severe'

From Diana Geddes

Martial law, which has been in force in Pakistan for the past seven years, has resulted in thousands of arbitrary arrests, floggings and torture but there are new signs that the repression may be easing off slightly, according to the International Federation of Human Rights.

A Federation team of inquiry, comprising two French lawyers and an English barrister, Miss Joanna Dodson, has just returned from an eight-day fact-finding visit to Karachi, Lahore, Rawalpindi and Islamabad, where they managed to speak to some 60 lawyers, journalists, politicians and former political prisoners.

"People spoke to us of two to three thousand political prisoners still being held, mostly in the most appalling conditions, including many lawyers who have spoken out against martial law, but we were not able to verify that figure", Maitre Etienne Jaudel, one of the French lawyers, said in Paris yesterday.

"Things got particularly bad after the bloody riots last summer. It is the extraordinarily arbitrary nature of the arrests that is the worst. People may be arrested anywhere, at any time, and sentenced to up to three years imprisonment by summary military tribunals without ever knowing the charges against them and with no right to any legal representation. We met people who had been arrested and sentenced 10 times in succession."

"The detention centre in the Mogul fort in Lahore has the worst reputation for the torture of political prisoners. The torture is mostly not as bad as I have witnessed in other countries, but prisoners may be deprived of sleep for nights on end, hung from the ceiling by their feet and subjected to the most savage flogging. One man we met still had scars six years later."

"Former prisoners told us they were kept fettered by their hands, feet and waist in cramped cells, some no bigger than the infamous 1.5 metre by two metre 'tiger cages' in Vietnam. They were allowed out for only half an hour a day. The wounds caused by the chains of ten became infected. Hygienic amenities were nonexistent."

Miss Dodson and Maitre Jaudel said that they had discovered some positive things on their trip, however. Flogging of political prisoners appeared to have ceased three to four months ago though it continued for common criminals, and a considerable number of political prisoners had been released over the past few weeks. No official explanation had been given.



President Zia: Regime under fire

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SPECTRUM

Eight years in the making, the fourth film of the story of Captain William Bligh and the mutiny that Fletcher Christian led against him is the first to tell it as it was 200 years ago - and the film *Bounty* of today sailed almost as hazardous a sea of troubles

Bounty hunters

There can be few visitors to the small and exposed cemetery of St. Mary's, Lambeth, who will not have heard of the man described as having "bravely fought the battles of his country and died beloved, respected and lamented on the 7th Day of December 1817, aged 64." Despite his undisputed skills as a navigator, his courage and dedication to duty, Captain Bligh is established in the public's imagination as a tyrant who flogged his men with sadistic relish until, on April 28, 1789, they were moved to mutiny against him. The instigator of the mutiny, Fletcher Christian, was a personal friend of Bligh's, the recipient of his personal favours and then personal abuse. Christian has gone down in history as a romantic hero.

The *Bounty* is the stuff of fiction and only weeks after Bligh's return to England, following his phenomenal 4,000-mile open-boat voyage, a play called *The Pirates* was staged in London.

This year sees the release of the fourth cinematic film, called simply *The Bounty*. It has taken eight years to reach the screen and is the first film to be based on authentic documentation as well as Richard Hough's 1972 book *Captain Bligh and Mr Christian*. The peculiar and dramatic history of this film offers a remarkable portrait of how Hollywood has changed in recent years.

After the failure of *Ryan's Daughter*, which appeared in 1970, director David Lean was looking for his next story. A compulsive traveller who has few possessions and lives in luxurious hotels, Lean arrived in French Polynesia with the idea of making a screen biography of Captain Cook. Perhaps because of the vastness of the undertaking (even for Lean) and perhaps because Cook's personality was disappointing, straightforward. Lean abandoned him for Bligh and the *Bounty*. Lean also fell passionately in love with the sapphire lagoons and the lush volcanic spires of Polynesia in

much the same way that he became enthralled by the Jordanian desert whilst filming *Lawrence of Arabia*.

Lean's films are examinations of the British character under stress. He places his characters in alien, inopportune, exotic landscapes which offer a source of escape and self-discovery.

Lean installed himself in an overwater bungalow 160 miles from Tahiti, and early in 1977 sent his friend and agent Phil Kellogg to start the film rolling. At the time, the head of production at Warner Bros was John Calley, who told me, "Warners wanted to make a film with David Lean because we felt he had kept the industry alive."

Lean assembled his group of

collaborators, including script man Robert Bolt. Within weeks of Warner Bros agreeing to back a \$17m film, the project had grown into two films and involved the construction of a ship. The backers were nervous of the possible costs involved.

"It was heartbreaking to see the project slipping away from us," says Calley. "If you pass by the chance to make a film with David Lean you have to look at yourself very critically, but John Box, the production designer had left the picture and we were faced with horror stories. We decided to make only one picture and review the possibility of a second film once the first picture had opened. But David was determined to make two films and then we had heard that they had found someone prepared to back them." And that was the Dino De Laurentiis Corporation.

Lean and Bolt's plans were unusually detailed and meticulous, nothing less than an evocation of British manners and society in the late eighteenth century. By April 1978 a researcher hired from the Victoria and Albert Museum was back in London exchanging hundreds of telegrams with Bora Bora. An endless series of questions would arise: What did the Dutch settlement at



DAVID LEAN

‘Early sea explorers were like today’s astronauts’

Coupane look like? How large were the ship’s biscuits? What sort of ornaments would Lord Hood (who presided over Bligh’s court martial) decorate his quarters with? How were English stage plays produced and what would the audience have worn? The film was to include the stage play *The Pirates* and one draft of the script began in outer space in order to demonstrate how the early sea explorers were the eighteenth century equivalents of astronauts.

At the very start of his involvement, De Laurentiis approved the construction of

Lean, the poet and imagist was alone

the *Bounty*. It followed the plans still held in the Maritime Museum at Greenwich. The hull was ordered from Whangarei Engineering in New Zealand while sails and rigging were ordered from Spencer Theis Wharf on the Isle of Wight. The ship would cost \$2m and below decks would be fitted out with all the latest electronic equipment.

Understandably, De Laurentiis was becoming impatient. Almost a year had passed and the ship was not yet completed and Bolt had yet to complete the script. By now De Laurentiis had replaced Phil Kellogg with Bernard Williams, a young British executive who had been

Back in London Lean ap-

proached Melvyn Bragg and for the next three months the pair were ensconced at the Berkeley Hotel and Bragg was driven almost to despair by Lean’s obsession with detail. The obsession with detail was certainly aggravated by Lean’s previous experience in Tahiti, by the tragedy that befell Robert Bolt, by the ever-present financial problems and because, by all accounts, Lean had decided to complete the screenplay himself. After Melvyn Bragg left, Lean went to Switzerland to work alone.

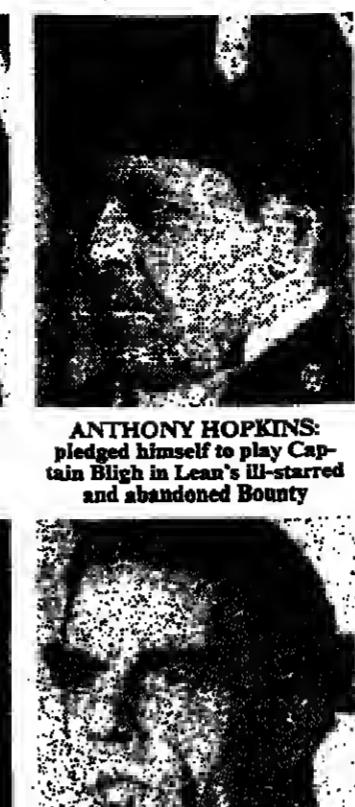
Four months later in September 1979 the reproduction *Bounty* was seized in New Zealand under a court order obtained by its builders, who had not been paid in full. A writ was nailed to the mast.

Seemingly undeterred, Lean and Spiegel turned their attention to casting. Lean had always wanted Anthony Hopkins to play William Bligh and Hopkins had pledged himself to the project.

In late 1980, while Lean was still grappling with the script, Christopher Reeve was invited to meet Lean at Sam Spiegel’s New York apartment. "I had been recommended to Lean by Katharine Hepburn", Reeve told me. "I was excited by the chance to work with Lean who had always regarded as one of the grand masters of the cinema." Reeve agreed to star in the film alongside Hopkins but soon afterwards, in early 1981, Lean was finally forced to abandon the *Bounty* for good.

"I left the project with a broken heart", Spiegel told me, "but discussions with studios all broke down and then David became involved with *A Passage to India*. During Lean’s last weeks on the *Bounty* the project had become known in Hollywood as "The Old Man and the Sea". Lean referred in an interview to the *Bounty* as "the saddest dead duck of my career".

Lean’s dream project was too expensive and came at a time when studios were changing their top executives every other week. There had been some costly failures – notably *Heaven’s Gate*, *Raise the Titanic*, 1981 and De Laurentiis’ own *Hurricane and Ragtime*. Everyone in Hollywood was afraid of committing themselves to an



MEL GIBSON: Hollywood's hottest property, but far from first choice to play the new Fletcher Christian

ANTHONY HOPKINS: pledged himself to play Captain Bligh in Lean’s ill-starred and abandoned *Bounty*

LAURENCE OLIVIER: hired for just one week’s work in the closing stages of the saga of HMS *Bounty*

EDWARD FOX: a small part for a big name—a brief appearance as an officer at Bligh’s court martial



ROBERT BOLT

‘I told David that we were living in a different age’

expensive project unless it involved rock music or producer George Lucas.

And then, as Bligh says in the finished film, "it was the place itself". Tahiti and its neighbouring islands can still be paradise if one knows where to look and although areas have become polluted by tourism the dramatically beautiful landscape remains indomitable. Just as Bligh’s crew surrendered to Polynesia’s charms, so too did Lean and his crew. Trying to account for the endless delays, one close associate of Lean’s said to me, "David will never agree with me but he became so much in love with the place he felt that if his cameras started turning its mystery and beauty would vanish."

By June 1981 the Dino De Laurentiis Corporation had made a settlement with Whangarei Engineering and put the *Bounty* up for sale. The asking price was £2,250,000. Despite a

sequel to *Conan the Barbarian* which De Laurentiis had produced. "Dino is a man who makes his own decisions and makes them instantly", Donaldson told me. "I was very impressed by him and during our meeting I asked casually what was happening with the *Bounty*.

"At Sam I got a call from Dino. He said he had an emergency and wouldn’t go to see him. 'Conan can’t be done by someone else', he told me, 'you will make the *Bounty* for me'." recalled Donaldson.

Once Donaldson was signed and in England working with the long-suffering Robert Bolt, Williams had to replace Christopher Reeve who had turned them down only six weeks before shooting started. There was no shortage of candidates – Jeremy Irons, Anthony Andrews, the rock star Sting, all were considered and rejected. Then Williams discovered that a film was made – MGM had been delayed and that its Australian star Mel Gibson, touted as the hottest actor in Hollywood, agreed.

Laurence Olivier and Edward Fox were engaged for a week’s work as officers at Bligh’s court martial and then, suddenly, Williams had his film together. On April 18, 1983 the first scene was shot. The film’s title appropriately enough, was *The Saga of HMS Bounty*.

Adrian Turner

The 1978 version of HMS *Bounty*: built at a cost of over \$2m and packed with below-deck electronics. Seized by the builder when payments were not met – a writ nailed to the mast.

Staggering, that’s the only word for it

moreover... Miles Kington

said afterwards that most of the offences were minor, usually caused by runners mugging each other in order to overtake.

"We had two or three hundred lads running in plain clothes with sun-glasses, rockers’ leather gear, stuff like that. I think their presence definitely helped to take the heat off. The only serious case we had was of one runner arrested for carrying drugs."

Steroids? "Cocaine, actually. It would have been worth about £5m on the street, which is where he was, of course, so we nabbed him. But all in all the runners behaved beautifully. There was no bickering, as we had taken the precaution of stopping any entrant from Yorkshire and turning them back before they got to London."

The race itself produced the usual crop of amazing stories, none more so than that of Steve Dipper, an unemployed youth from Tring, who received three offers of a job while he was running.

"I had this tray of ice creams which I was carrying with me as I ran, so as to get some pocket money, know what I mean? And three blokes offered me jobs in their restaurants, seeing as I was so enterprise. I am now running a small chain of take-away kebab houses in the Midlands, and this is only the day after the race. Can’t be bad."

again, but I don’t regret anything, it was marvellous while it lasted."

Most heart-warming of all, Simon Roneo actually met his mother during the race, whom he had not seen for 29 years!

"She had run off when I was three, and here she was, still running. It was a wonderful day for me, especially as she thinks she knows who my father is. I can’t thank the GLC enough."

Yes, this was all made possible by the GLC. And it’s the GLC that the Tories are trying to kill! Doesn’t make sense, does it? If you want to keep London running smoothly, write to your MP, enclosing one record and I never saw him

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 341)

ACROSS

- Italian dough dish (5)
- Mail sack (7)
- Refrain from exacting (5)
- Cut out (7)
- Feudal lord (8)
- Encourage (4)
- Environmental stress study (11)
- Sail into wind (4)
- Mockery (8)
- Inscribed (7)
- Powerful man (5)
- Attendant body (7)
- Praise lavishly (5)

DOWN

- Art traditionalist (6)
- Animated corpse (5)
- Sedative element (8)
- Predominance (13)
- III (4)
- US maize whisky (7)

- Separated area (6)
- Search refuse (8)
- Wooden clog (5)
- Impose (7)
- Fan heater (6)
- sun (4)

Recommended dictionary is the New Collins Concise

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LIVERPOOL Anfield July 14-21 8.00pm

IPSWICH Portman Road July 24-27 7.30pm

All seats FREE

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MONDAY PAGE

Divorce - American style

The Government's divorce reform proposals have been fiercely debated in and outside Parliament during the past few months. The Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Bill, at present in committee stage, aims to reform the present maintenance and alimony system to end the so-called "meal ticket for life" and to protect children's

interests. This emphasis on financial self-sufficiency for wives, which has been opposed by single parent groups in this country, has been one of the main planks of divorce law in the United States since the mid-1970s. BAILEY MORRIS reports on the array of problems that has emerged with the changes?

Washington These are the worst of times for Henry and Diane Mistele, who despite being legally divorced are living together by order of a United States court. How this bizarre state of affairs came about is a story which could be written only in America, where attempts have been made for more than a decade to correct inequities caused by the widespread adoption of "no-fault" divorce laws.

In the widely-publicized case of the Mistele, a well-meaning but misguided judge in Detroit, Michigan, tried to defy the unwritten rules of a broken marriage by sentencing them, for the sake of their children, to four years of "togetherness". Under the terms of this unique, even freakish decision, Mr Mistele is responsible for the maintenance of a comfortable house in the expensive Grosse Pointe Woods area of Detroit, as well as for grocery money and \$400 (£283) a month alimony. Mrs Mistele is responsible for cooking, housekeeping, shopping and childcare.

He sleeps in the bedroom; she sleeps in the sitting-room. Neither is allowed to bring "dates" home. If either breaks the rules, the penalty is loss of custody of their three sons. Both have denounced the judge and are fighting the decision.

One result has been the creation of a new poverty class

As Britain embarks on its first reform of divorce law since 1969, it is useful to examine, not the terms of the Mistele decision, but the motives which prompted the attempt of 78-year-old Detroit judge David Vokes to hold together a marriage that had broken down irreversibly.

A careful reading of the decision suggests that he saw Diane Mistele as "Everywoman" of a certain age and economic background who is likely to slip through the cracks of no-fault divorce laws, which no longer guarantee lifetime support. She is over 40, and has not worked since her three sons - aged 14 to 16 - were born. She is one generation of women who accepted the social dictum that a woman's place was at home. To push her out into society, with only a modest property settlement, outdated skills and prospects of only a very low-paying job would be to doom her to a life very close to the poverty line.

This, at any rate, was the judge's thinking, based on 20 years of hearing divorce cases. His experience taught him - and US statistics show - that since the widespread adoption of no-

fault divorce laws in 1970: first the rate of divorce has increased (one in two US marriages is legally dissolved); second terms have changed (child support payments and other forms of financial assistance have decreased); and third, one unfortunate result had been the creation of a new class of poor families headed by single working women.

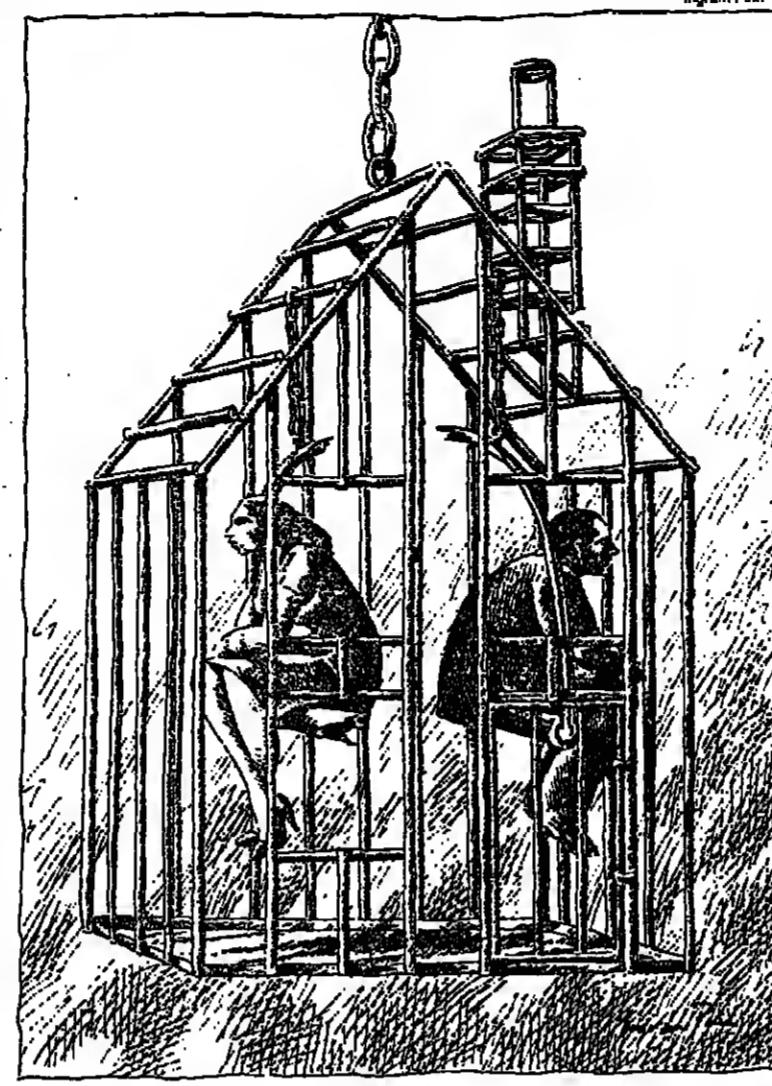
The growth of this new poverty class is thought to be a generational phenomenon which will not occur among younger, better-educated women whose career prospects are brighter. For the moment, however, it is a class that imposes new burdens on society and poses challenges to individual courts in the 51 state jurisdictions. They must put into practice specific terms of legal principles that are stated only in general terms.

In the 44 states which now require equitable distribution of marital property, it is up to the courts to decide what goes into the pot and how it should be divided. How much value should be placed, for example, on mothering, housekeeping, hostessing and other intangibles? Should the lost career potential of a foreign service wife or woman who stayed at home be taken into consideration? May a wife make claim to her husband's share of a closely-held business or to future royalties on a book written during the marriage?

As property settlements go up, and awards of alimony go down - only 10 per cent of US divorcees now receive such payments - these are the new issues courts are asked to resolve. There is no uniform response. Only 30 states, for example, weigh the economic value of housework, which has been estimated at figures varying from \$100 to \$300 a week.

Pensions are also a burning issue. In marriages in which the husband's pension was one of the main assets, wives have pressed for their share, but the practice of splitting pensions was recently interrupted by a controversial Supreme Court decision which declared in a case involving retirement pay of railway workers, that pensions may not be assigned to anyone but the worker. The court has not yet ruled on a similar case involving private pensions. It could terminate altogether the practice of pension-splitting unless Congress passes new legislation.

This "total picture" approach to divorce settlements has created a new breed of economic specialists who earn fees of \$3,000 and more to place valuations, which will stand up in court, on a medical practice, an accountancy business and the like. In some acrimonious cases, platoons of competing specialists are employed to



help divide the spoils, thus raising the cost of litigation enormously.

The excesses that have grown up under the no-fault system have led to repeated calls for reform. State legislators and associations of trial lawyers have appealed for national standardization, methods of evaluating the net worth of businesses and professions so as to cut divorce litigation fees. Increasingly, too, there are calls for government regulations, either state or federal, to set standards for divorce clinics in order to eliminate the assembly-line type, which encourages couples to slip in and out of marriage with ease.

But generally, it must be said that the principles guiding courts since the

adoption of no-fault divorce laws are laudable, and preferable to the former system of protracted court battles and lifetime alimony support. They are: that property be divided fairly, that children be supported by one parent or both parents, depending on the means of each; that whenever possible alimony be eliminated, or alternatively be of a temporary nature, to encourage the ex-wife or ex-husband to support himself or herself.

In practice, however, the system often fails. Despite court awards and the concern of officials, frequently neither child support nor alimony is paid.

Most of the women in receipt of court-ordered child support payments

were getting an average of only 55 per cent of the amount due. Taking inflation into account, the amounts awarded were smaller.

Perhaps more disturbing was the finding that more than one-half of the 8.4 million women living with children under 21 in families in which no father was present received no support at all.

Studies reveal that divorce is harder on boys than girls

These grim statistics add up to a national problem which President Reagan mentioned in a State of the Union message this year in which he promised increased federal efforts to help mothers collect payments to bolster the deteriorating family structure.

Reagan is considering the use of computers to track down non-paying spouses - usually fathers - who attempt to go underground by changing their names or seeking employment in other states. Under this proposal, the names of non-paying fathers or mothers would be forwarded to the inland revenue service, which would deduct from federal tax refunds the money owed.

This will not, however, be enough to correct the problems faced by the children of divorce. Many, who formerly lived with both parents in middle-class homes, experience rapid deterioration in their standards of living. Support payments increasingly cease well before the age of 21, leaving the mother to pay for vocational training and university education she can rarely afford.

Economic sacrifices are only part of the problem. There are deep emotional scars as well. Despite the growing acceptance of shared physical and legal custody of children, and a new movement by fathers to gain custody, courts continue overwhelmingly to award the care of children to mothers. Often, in several years time, or after remarriage, the father drops out of the children's lives completely.

This is disastrous for boys in divorced people's families. New studies reveal that divorce is harder on boys than girls, who adjust more rapidly, often recovering from the shock in a year's time, whereas it can take a boy up to three years to recover. As the effects on children have become better researched, courts and parents have tried to find better ways of preserving their interests. This has led to experiments known as the "empty nester" syndrome, in which both parents retain custody of children, each parent taking turns to visit, and a shared custody regime in which children shuttle back and forth.

Courts in cases where children become pawns in the divorce proceedings have also begun to appoint independent child counsellors or watchdogs to protect their rights. These are some of the problems and solutions which have arisen during the past decade of no-fault divorce. Well-meaning judges like the one who heard the Mistele's case often attempt to resolve them on their own - with disastrous results.

PENNY PERRICK

Why my career is just the job



I have been asked to give a talk to a group of aspiring young journalists about my career. This will be difficult. My career has been

of such short duration that when people ring up to ask me

to write a book, discuss an article, or indeed give a talk, my first thought is that they have mistakenly been put through to my extension instead of Miles Kington's.

However, what I could talk about at some length are the years I spent having a job. A job is to me as Acilas is to cashmere and yet a job is what most people end up doing. Even, I suspect, the well-motivated young women who are prepared to give up a Saturday afternoon to listen to me talk, unless they take greater care than I ever did in planning their working lives.

So probably the best thing I can do for them is to deliver a painful account of the error of my ways on the same principle that lifers are trotted out to lecture to juvenile offenders as a means of ridding evil intentions in the bud.

My first mistake, aged eighteen, was to think of work as something that could be fitted in to the rest of the exciting mish-mash which was then my life. Lucky enough to have been taken on by *Vogue* magazine, I gave only half my attention to Yves St Laurent, while the other half was deployed in the pursuit of love.

Work for me, and indeed for most of my female contemporaries, was a way of passing the time while we waited. Micawber-like, for something to turn up - the something being a euphemism for a husband with enough money to transform us into full-time housewives and mothers. I was so enraptured by this prospect that I hardly noticed the pleasures that might be afforded by taking one's work seriously, among them pride in one's own achievement, a certain amount of prestige and regular pay rises.

When I did notice, it was too late. By then I had two small children around which work again, had to be fitted in.

As any working woman will tell you, anyone with a modicum of efficiency can manage to combine a job with motherhood but only a brilliant few can run to a career as well.

The long sharp shock of getting divorced didn't really improve my career prospects, even though it made going back

to work an economic imperative. Guilt mingled with despair and uncertainty, which is what most divorced mothers feel most of the time, is not the best basis on which to launch a brilliant career, a move which requires bags of self-confidence and the understanding that an admiring world is ready to lay itself at your feet.

I might never have had a career at all had not two things happened: the first was that my children grew up and the second was that I married a man who, having got a great deal of satisfaction out of his own working life, understood my wish to do the same.

Tentatively, I began to turn my life around so that everything fitted in to my work rather than the other way around. The more time and effort I put into my career, the more pleasurable it became and so it has got much easier to say "no" to things that will come between me and my current love affair with my work. Things like late nights, over-hectic weekends and the conviction that I alone should be responsible for choosing, buying and gift-wrapping every single Christmas present including that destined for my husband's former mother-in-law.

I do not expect today's young women to muddle through life as distractingly as I once did. It seems to me they are more disciplined at keeping their romantic natures in check and that they don't share that ridiculous fear of commitment to work that plagued me. They also seem to have more energy. "That's because they don't waste it mooching around waiting for their boyfriends to turn up", a friend explained crisply.

I may, perhaps, need to work harder at keeping my career afloat than they ever will and I fully intend to. Having found it at long last, I should hate to see it go.

• Should you live in an area that's vulnerable to visits by the Avon Lady, think twice before letting her in.

For the woman whose cry of "Ding, Dong, Avon calling" has echoed politely through the ages may now have to change her tune. Miles B Waldron, the president and chief executive officer of Avon Products Inc, has threatened a certain amount of "restructuring" in his management and personnel teams with a view to "being almost outreach, more aggressive and maybe a little more risk-taking". So I fear that the Avon Lady may have abandoned her soft-soap approach in favour of the finesse of a fairground harker.

Frances Gibb on a hollow legal victory

Winner loses all

When Patricia Eaton, a South London college lecturer, won £12,000 libel damages last year against her former lover in the so-called "sex blackmail" case, colleagues and friends thought she had done rather well.

The award and the £30,000 legal costs ordered against art lecturer Terry Horsley seemed some kind of compensation for three years of the emotional turmoil and strain that is always likely to attend litigation, particularly where reputation is concerned.

But it is victory that has turned distinctly sour as far as Miss Eaton is concerned. To this day, the sum total she has received from Mr Horsley is £600, most of which has gone to her solicitor, and she still faces debts of some £12,000, the amount outstanding from the legal costs incurred in clearing her name.

Libel actions, while attracting much publicity, are relatively rare. Those that are brought represent only a small percentage of cases where there may be grounds for an action but where the victim is deterred from litigation because of the immense obstacles involved. And of those writs that are issued, 95 per cent are settled out of court.

Unlike every other kind of civil action, libel does not qualify for legal aid. So any would-be litigant must, if not wealthy, at least have access to funds running to several thousand pounds. And the onus of proof is on the person suing; he must show the words were defamatory. Third, again unlike other civil actions, juries are used, which can make the results unpredictable.

Despite these obstacles, Miss Eaton, a lecturer in movement studies and health education, went ahead with her action after an 18-month affair with Mr Horsley at Avery Hill College of Further Education where they both worked. She claimed that a letter to the college head by him had severely damaged her personal and professional reputation. Copies of the letter were circulated to other staff members.

The case, which came to court last February, had all the ingredients guaranteed to attract maximum press interest, with the consequent harassment and invasion of privacy that that entails.



Patricia Eaton: awarded £12,000, still owes £12,000

When the jury came out unqvocally in Miss Eaton's favour, her decision to fight in the courts seemed vindicated. But it was the judge, in summing up, who prophetically warned that there could be "no winners, only losers", at the end of the day.

She argues that she had no choice but to sue. "The hurt I feel most", she says, "is that no one mentions my attempts to stop this ever reaching the courts." As far back as October 1980, her lawyers had written to Mr Horsley, saying she would settle for an apology and £25 costs. Three years later with all attempts to settle out of court having failed, Mr Horsley faced finding £32,000.

Further legal action became necessary to secure regular payments of the money. By this time however Miss Eaton, who had already raised £7,000 with the help from friends to bring the case, was out of cash. Her solicitor, who had paid all the money to her counsel, could not longer act for her without paying out of his own pocket.

TALKBACK

Teacher in a pet

From Lisa Hallgarten, 14 Antrim Grove, London. With reference to headmaster John Pearman's "Comment" (Monday Page, May 7), I would like to comment on the role and performance of Britain's teachers from a different perspective. As a student in a large London comprehensive, I reject totally the idea that teachers underestimate their responsibility to their pupils. My long experience as a pupil has shown me the great extent of my teachers' concern both in their time spent in preparation and marking and in their acceptance of much unpaid overtime. It is precisely because teaching is a caring profession that, like nurses, teachers can be exploited financially through their own genuine concern, and the public outcry that inevitably follows strike threats.

Finally, to claim that teachers are "unaccountable" is to insult the very intelligence of school students. Most students know if a teacher is lazy, inefficient or indifferent to their needs, and I would put it to John Pearman that the potential scorn and condemnation of a class of thirty children usually ensures that teachers do their job well. Perhaps, if he would venture from the security of his headmaster's office, into the classrooms of my school, he would see the stupidity of his shortsighted and inaccurate "Comment".

From John Adams, 16 Laburnum Crescent, Kidlington, Oxford. I cannot allow another unnecessary holiday to go unused, and so abandon my CSE-marking to take issue with John Pearman's opinions.

"Must teachers are paid far too much already." Perhaps when I started teaching in 1967, it would have taken my entire gross salary for three years to purchase our extremely modest little house. This is still the case. The difference is that I am now at the top of my scale as head of department in a large comprehensive, with little chance of promotion.

"And they are paid it, in many cases, for doing far too little." Head teachers are paid twice as much as the average teacher, and have very little contact with the classroom. Perhaps Mr Pearson has lost touch altogether.



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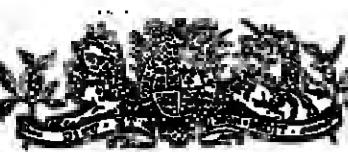
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PARIS DIARY

Frank Johnson

Verdi-nine steps, and dozens more

During the 1970s the composer and conductor Pierre Boulez wrote a much-discussed article entitled: "Opera houses! Blow them up!"

His view, in its essentials, was that opera, as organized in our time, is a decadent, conservative, philistine activity unrelated to the realities of the second half of the twentieth century. Since he wrote the article, the French have tended to agree with him in increasing numbers. So the audience for opera has been going up.

This was not what M. Boulez had in mind. He was, and still is, against all those cumbersome performances of, say, *Aida*, with fat people strolling around with Art Deco lampshades on their heads pretending to be ancient Egyptians. Such goings-on were a waste of the subsidies enjoyed by the great opera houses.

I believe that both M. Boulez and the audiences that like lampshade *Aidas* are right. Such *Aidas* could well afford to pay for themselves and the proper place for them is not the opera house, but the sports stadium. This Paris has just proved with an excellent series of *Aida* at the new stadium at Bercy. The building was opened a few weeks ago with round-the-clock cycling and continued with world middle-eight boxing though, in an uncharacteristic failure of showmanship, the management failed to incorporate those two attractions in the performance of *Aida* I saw.

The various casts for the 16 performances tended to be as strong as one would find in most leading houses (for the benefit of opera boxes, the cast I heard was: Dimitrova, Ohrzisova, Cossuta, and Vincu, with the baritone being the less well-known, though perfectly acceptable, Giuseppe Scandola. Michel Plasson conducted the Toulouse Opera Orchestra).

The producer and designer was Vittorio Rossi, who has worked on spaghetti westerns. I suppose an *Aida* in Paris is a frogs log middle-eastern. For the benefit of non-operas, the "production number" in *Aida* is the Triumph Scene: the Egyptian army marching across the stage to a very famous trumpet tune, having thrashed the primitive Ethiopians. In the opera house, the logistics involved have traditionally been solved by having most of the Egyptians march around behind the scenery and come back again in exactly the same way, except for those carrying primitive Ethiopian trophies – invariably chamber pots – who change trophies backstage, substituting the chamber pot for, say, a huge shoe horn.

At Bercy, the scene consisted of a vast flight of steps up to the top of the stadium, from a hole at the bottom of these steps processed about 300 soldiers who marched up to the roof, lights playing on their golden helmets. Glorious. Elsewhere, Signor Rossi's production was more conventional. Lamp shades were worn.

And an operatic vista of Bastille and glass

The centre of nearly every capital in the world, it seems, has been influenced, or ruined, by the Franco- Swiss Le Corbusier except Paris, the capital of the country of which he was a naturalized citizen. This is a great source of irritation to me as a native of London, a city which has taken much punishment from the Modern Movement of which Le Corbusier is part, or possibly all. Paris's wise decision not to allow itself to be razed by the Germans in 1940 meant that it did not have to be rebuilt after the war, a necessity which gave the modernists their chance in London and elsewhere.

I was passing the Opera the other day when four workmen emerged to load into a van the model of the new opera house to be built in the Place de la Bastille. Since we of the public had not been shown any of the projected designs, this was a chance to inspect it, especially since there was, as always in Paris, a delay in the loading while the men cursed one another, as to which hit should go first. The design was bold, exciting and full of windows – it is, in short, old fashioned. Modern. Lovers of Paris's glories as we all are, I came away rather pleased that the city was no longer escaping lightly.

BARRY FANTONI



Now Mr Milkwood will read his latest poem, *The Battle of Ravenscraig*.

Why Labour needs a pit ballot

by Jimmy Reid

For the great majority of people one issue overrides all others in the coalfields dispute: the miners' right to vote on whether they should be on strike. Everything else – the future of the industry, picketing – is secondary.

But even Labour's tendency to mistake the voice of the zealot for that of the common man cannot explain the extraordinary way that the party leadership has reacted to the dispute.

It is only a year or so since Labour was convulsed by a fierce debate on party democracy. The fight was won by those demanding wide-ranging democratic change. Labour MPs are now subject to mandatory reselection and the leader is elected by an electoral college representing the entire party.

For Labour, the issue of democracy is vital for reasons both practical and strategic. A major obstacle to the growth of socialist ideas in Britain and Western Europe is undoubtedly the fear of millions that socialism means a totalitarian, Soviet-style society in which talk of freedom and civil rights is a sham.

The electoral advance of a Labour Party with a left-wing programme for socialist change will largely be determined by its ability to convince people that it stands for democratic change. It must therefore

demonstrate a consistent fidelity to democratic principles.

All such talk and promises will sound hollow and hypocritical if Labour looks away and refuses to speak out when democratic rights are cynically denied to workers within a section of the labour movement itself.

Another aspect which must be troubling Labour is the way the NUM's national delegate conference has been used to circumvent a national ballot. The equivalent of what has been done in the NUM would be a majority vote in the House of Commons to cancel a general election on the grounds that Parliament is a higher body and does not need a mandate from the electorate.

Here was a test of Labour's commitment to democracy. But of the party leadership only Neil Kinnock has criticized the decision to abandon the ballot box. Indeed, the party's national executive has backed the strike without reservation, which must mean support for the refusal of a ballot.

Kinnock has argued that a ballot is necessary to make the miners' strike "coherent" and to make possible the level of support from other workers which is needed to win. Events have proved him right. In its

ninth week the strike is not yet solid and will not be so without a national ballot. Other workers are obviously reluctant to vote for action in support of miners on strike who still have not had a vote on whether they should be on strike.

All this can legitimately be interpreted as revealing a distressing disregard for democratic norms of behaviour and conduct inside the British labour movement. This, however, would be untrue. In private, many Labour MPs are bitterly opposed to what they describe as "Scargill's antics".

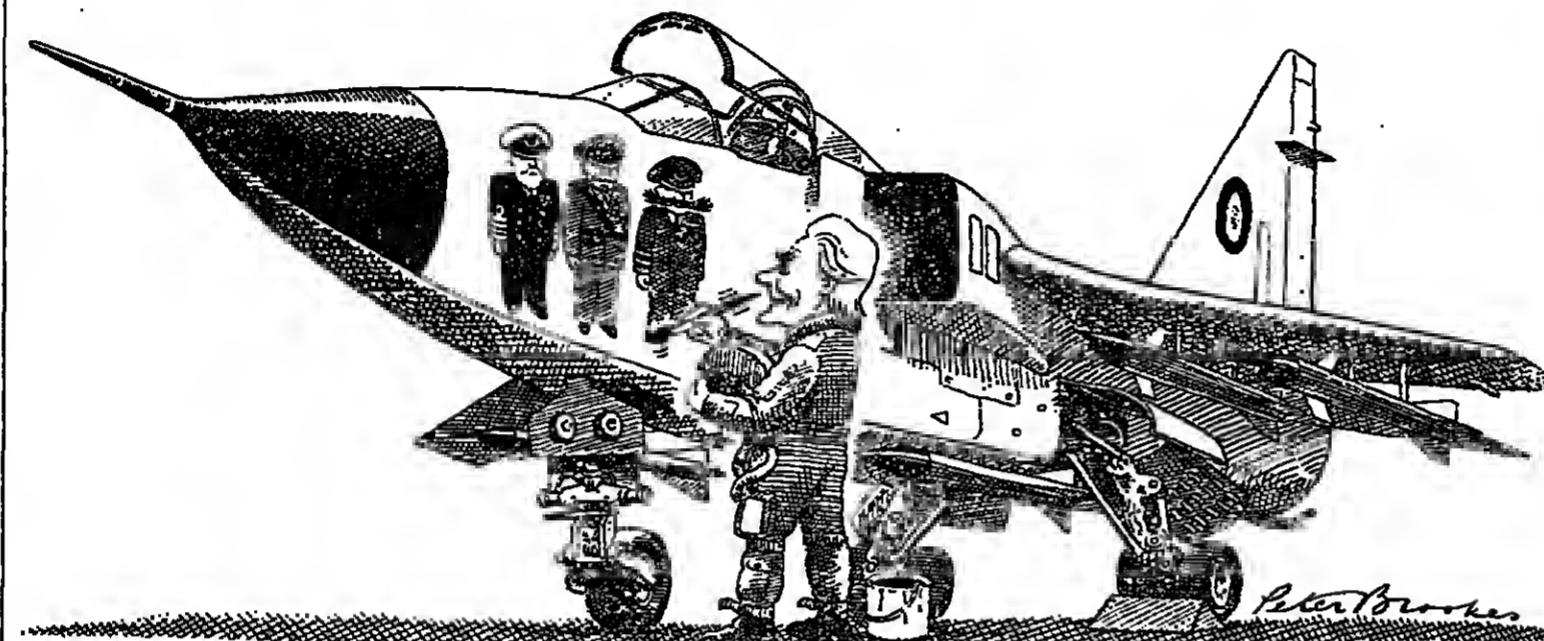
Why then, this contrast between private hostility and a public endorsement so sweeping as implicitly to include the rejection of a ballot? The answer is even more worrying. It is fear. To disagree with Arthur Scargill is viewed by the zealots inside the Labour party as treason, and the MPs are the most vulnerable.

If the party is seen to support or acquiesce with those who would deny democracy here and now to workers, how can a future Labour government be trusted with national democracy? It's no good saying, "Of course you can trust us". Deeds speak louder than words.

The author led the shipworkers' sit-in on the Upper Clyde in 1971. He resigned from the Communist Party in 1976 and joined Labour.

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Rodney Cowton on the ructions over top-level defence cuts



Can brass deflect a Heseltine misguided missile?

developing his plans to run down the Navy.

The viewpoints have varied, but even the most sympathetic to Mr Heseltine have warned against depriving the individual services of the ability to offer advice on strategy and policy.

The Ministry has been rather proud of its efforts to achieve economies and become cost conscious over the last 20 years. Long before Mr Heseltine arrived on the scene a senior civil servant could effortlessly tell you the cost of a marginal improvement in the quality of lavatory paper used throughout the services (£400,000 a year, if memory serves).

Mr Heseltine, however, is convinced that there is a lot of slab still to be found, though it may be tightly corseted and not easily visible, and he is intent on excising it. And if he has to stand on the patient's corset in order to examine the abdomen, well stoicism has long been recognized as a certain instinct for self-preservation.

But it is not only the greats of yesterday who are up in arms. There is believed to be anxiety in the Air Force Board of the Defence Council, and the Army Board is fuming and would undoubtedly fulminate too, for the Official Secrets Act and a certain instinct for self-preservation.

Some months ago the Army decided that 1984 would be the year in which it would strap on its sharpest sword and compose its features into their leanest and meanest look. It was going to do its own stream-lining and never again would it be possible for anyone to accuse it of being top heavy.

But that has not deterred Mr Heseltine. The Army now fears that Mr Heseltine's scheme may delay the implementation of its own cuts, and that the two may not be entirely compatible.

All this is neatly encapsulated in the fact that the man charged with the primary responsibility for carrying through the Army's review, Lieutenant-General Sir James Glover, Vice-Chief of the General Staff, is himself in post which Mr Heseltine is heading in the wrong direction.

The details are now being worked out and will be revealed in a white paper in July, but in essence he aims to strip the Army, Navy and Air Force of their policy-forming staffs,

and concentrate them under the wing of the Chief of Defence Staff, who rises supreme and imperial above the individual services.

This has already generated in the correspondence columns of *The Times* the biggest salvo from the lately great – retired Chiefs of Defence Staff. First Sea Lords and a minister – that has been fired since Sir John Nott in 1981 began

There is no doubt at all that there is now great anger and apprehension about Mr Heseltine's designs. Whether later in the summer it will lead to resignations or demands for meetings with the Prime Minister is too early to say.

I would certainly be wrong to dismiss the anxiety as simply that of men concerned with self-interest and career prospects, or, from the other extreme, to argue that the whole exercise is irrelevant because the Ministry of Defence is an undefeatable tyke which will quickly recover its old shape whatever you do to it.

There are serious issues at stake, for Mr Heseltine's plan constitutes the biggest top level shake-up since the individual service ministries were brought together in a unified Defence Ministry 30 years ago.

Many people are waiting to see the detailed elaboration of the scheme before forming a view, but others believe that even the outline scheme makes it clear that Mr Heseltine is heading in the wrong direction.

They argue that in recent years the balance of power and influence between the Chief of Defence Staff and the chiefs of the individual services has swung far enough in the direction of the CDS. In pursuing a lid system Mr Heseltine may be in danger of shutting the door on the best advice, which can often emerge from conflicting interests vigorously pursued.

They believe he may be endangering the professionalism and morale of the individual services. They also argue that in the Falklands conflict the existing system came through the most rigorous test since the

Second World War with credit, and that it is nonsense now to tamper with the fundamentals of a tested system. Those not opposed in principle to a strengthening of the role of the Chief of Defence Staff will nevertheless require Mr Heseltine's detailed plan, when it emerges, to meet some important questions:

• If the CDS is to have sole responsibility for the formulation of policy recommendations and the conduct of operations in war, how are future occupants of that enhanced post to be selected and given the breadth of training and experience to fit them for it?

• Will the new hinge which Mr Heseltine is designing between policy formulation and management of the services be strong enough to cope with a severe crisis? Mr Heseltine plainly believes that the present system of policy formulation is cumbersome and rusty. But there are those who fear that the link in his new system will be so weak that with the first unpredicted stress that gate will fall off the hinge.

• How are operational requirements to be determined and resources allocated? The present system in which Chiefs of Staff wheel and deal for resources may be undignified, but given the excruciatingly difficult nature of the decisions to be taken, some fear that a managerially more tidy system will not necessarily be more efficient.

Ultimately what it is all about is the reconciliation of the tensions created by the fact that the Ministry of Defence is simultaneously a policy-forming department which has to get the best value it can out of a £17,000m budget – the second largest of any government department – and an operational headquarters which has to have the robustness and the reserves to be able to cope with the most severe test to which society is ever exposed.

The question is, can Mr Heseltine get the balance right. Some fear he is about to reveal the inadequacy of a purely commercial managerial approach to defence.

they are subjected to random lie tests to check possible theft.

What is bound to concern MPs is the lack of any rules, code of conduct or legislation to control the use of polygraphs in Britain. Mrs Thatcher has specifically ruled out "at present" the introduction of laws to control or limit their use. Barren suggests that rules similar to those adopted by the American Polygraph Association, which has 1,500 members, would suffice.

"I don't like the idea of the polygraph," he admits "but it is necessary because lying and stealing have become so common that people are not even ashamed of it. We need to help people to be honest, as I am sure the vast majority would like to be."

Pur bluntly, he says employer tolerance is equal to employee theft. Of course, an individual's right to privacy must be guarded and respected "but the need for society to protect its business, its job security, its hard-earned wages and its health, safety and welfare must be equally sacred".

As MPs begin their inquiries they will have to decide if Barren's suggestions are realistic formulas for a big reduction in crime or a blueprint for an Orwellian nightmare.

Richard Evans

Cross my graph and hope to die

Britain's hard-pressed spy catchers are not alone in resorting to the polygraph lie detector to weed out suspects. A small but growing number of businessmen are doing the same. According to a recently retired chief constable, workers steal a total of £300,000 a year from their employers, and up to a third of all business failures are the result of employees' dishonesty. Some recent polygraph tests:

• A London property developer lost two deals at critical moments. Tests revealed that a member of the staff was passing information to a relative working for a rival firm.

• After losing £3,000 in takings in one day, a fast-food chain suspended six employees and offered them lie tests. Five accepted. The sixth refused, at the last minute. It transpired that he had served two prison sentences for theft which he had not disclosed when applying for the job. He was dismissed.

• After an unsuccessful police investigation into the disappearance of valuables worth £45,000, a Home Counties firm used a polygraph and skin moisture as recorded by the detector. John Dicker, a retired detective sergeant who trained for three months in the United States last year, is at present the firm's sole

expert who decides from the squiggles recorded on the graph paper, if someone is being truthful or not.

Barren says: "Overall, a 100 per cent success cannot be guaranteed because one must account for the occasional psychopath who really believes he is telling the truth. But if the polygraphist is well trained, competent and experienced, it is near enough 100 per cent as makes no difference."

His case for extending the use of the polygraph along American lines, where it is used by about half of all shops, is simple, if not simplistic.

He guarantees that the use of the polygraph, in three different ways, can reduce by 80 per cent losses caused by staff stealing from shops.

First, he offers pre-employment screening tests. More than eight out of 10 people seeking jobs tell lies, he says. Usually they are small ones, such as exaggerating educational qualifications or present salary. But often past dishonesty is kept secret.

Secondly, he provides specific investigations into theft of cash, merchandise or company secrets.

Lastly, he offers an "honesty maintenance programme". In effect an amnesty is granted to a company's workforce after which

they are subjected to random lie tests to check possible theft.

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Richard Evans

Ferdinand Mount

Discarding the seal of office

The circus poster looked odd, and rather stark. There were a couple of tigers, no prancing ponies, no Madame Fifi and her Amazing Performing Poodles. This was, in short, a circus without animals. The great Mr Gerry Cottle explained in a programme note: "The reason we can't even have a horse or a dog in the circus is that many local councils won't allow us to". Everyone agrees that it is still a marvellous circus, but it is not what it used to be.

You are still welcome to display orang-utans playing lacrosse, as long as you do not do it on council property. For councils may be as choosy as any private individual about what animals they permit on their land. And an increasing number of them choose not to entertain circuses that include so much as a performing flea. Islington Council has circulated an Animals Charter and is confident that its fellow Labour-controlled councils in inner London will join the ban, which is already in force.

The trouble is that circuses are out of fashion. No progressive town is still the day the circus leaves town, if Nelly the Elephant packed her trunk and said goodbye to the circus, the Milatons. Today, animal rights group would applaud her liberation from capitalist exploitation. Yet these have circuses in the Soviet Union. Circus people are said to have gipsy blood in them, and gypsies are very much "in". Why are circuses so unmistakably out?

I suspect it is because circuses are associated with vulgar pleasure and with nothing else. A circus is simply a spectacle. It does not aim to improve or elevate us; unlike a gymnastic display, it does not demonstrate the glorious state of the nation's health; unlike folk-dancing, it does not pay homage to national tradition; unlike winning the World Cup, it does not mean We Are The Greatest.

It belongs to that realm of grubby commercial, innocent pleasure which irritates Prodroses the world over: the world of comics and boiled sweets and Space Invaders and unlit cigarettes and the Eurovision Song Contest. I like to think of a Prodroses Union Conference, which would bring together the most interfering sort of Tory MP with the most aggressive feminists and health campaigners: there they would all be preparing more and more serious plans for stopping people doing things.

Meanwhile, somewhere on the Welsh border where some sleepy county council has turned a blind eye, the rest of us would be lying in the heather, in a haze of alcohol and nicotine, while all around children dazed on lollies and horror comes waiting for the circus to begin. Then, world, of course, be lions and tigers and horses and elephants and monkeys. But there would also be parrots singing numbers from the Rover, usually carrying a few pounds overweight, running along the assault course. At the city's edge, every spare patch of thistles is pressed into service as a riding

Anne Sofer

Maybe it's because I'm a Londoner

"But can we afford London?" asked a fellow guest at a dinner party recently. And predictably I choked with outrage over my chilli con carne. When I had controlled myself I charged him

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office



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

NINETEEN NINETY-SEVEN

In trying to reach agreement with China over Hongkong, the British government faces an awkward, even wretched, dilemma. China's claim to sovereignty over Hongkong is in the end incontestable, nor least because the British-held lease on most of the colony is due to expire in thirteen years' time. And it is made more acceptable by China's promise that it will preserve the present Hongkong system intact for fifty years after 1997. For this reason the British government is sensible to acknowledge, as the Foreign Secretary did in Hongkong late last month, that "it would not be realistic to think of an agreement that provides for British administration in Hongkong after 1997". The dilemma lies in the fact the government is seeking an agreement that is not only acceptable to Britain and China, but also to the people of Hongkong. And a large proportion of Hongkong's five million or so people have the gravest doubts about an agreement that would place Hongkong under the control of China.

It would not do to portray the feelings of Hongkong people in black-and-white terms. Most of the colony's predominantly Cantonese population have a vague sense of loyalty to China, and more specifically to Guangdong province, across the border from Hongkong, of which they are culturally and linguistically a part. And although a large number of them have left China, legally or illegally, during the past thirty years, many have done so in search of economic betterment rather than as political refugees. Nor do most ordinary people in Hongkong identify themselves in any but the remotest way with the British administration there. But the fact remains that most people in Hongkong know enough about how the Communist Party has ruled China since 1949 to worry about their future after 1997, and to want the firmest possible

assurances that the status quo in Hongkong will be maintained after the British leave.

Some of Hongkong's worries and doubts have been conveyed to London during the past week or so by two visiting delegations from the territory. The delegations have represented very different social strata, and have addressed themselves to two very different, but equally important, issues. The first, made up of appointed members of the colony's two main organs of government, the Executive and Legislative Councils, has been pressing for firmer guarantees for the future than they believe the Chino-British agreement now being negotiated will provide.

They have asked for an agreement that would spell out in precise detail the ways in which Hongkong's present legal, social and economic systems will be maintained after 1997, and would provide working assurances of its own inviolability. They also want to see the 2½ million or so holders of British Dependent Territory passports in Hongkong given the right of settlement in the United Kingdom.

The second delegation has been calling for the swift creation of a properly-functioning democratic machinery in Hongkong, so that when China institutes a system of "Hongkong governed by Hongkong people", as it promises to do after 1997, Hongkong will have a sufficiently sturdy democracy to defend its new-found autonomy.

These are all entirely worthy aims, but some are more practicable than others. Many are already shared by the British government. Sir Geoffrey Howe made it clear in Hongkong last month, for example, that Britain wants an agreement with China

that will formally record detailed arrangements for the post-1997 period. And both Chinese and British officials in Hongkong have intimated that the territory needs to develop a greater degree of democracy between now and 1997.

So far the British authorities in Hongkong have been very cautious about moving too fast towards a more democratic system there, apparently because they are afraid of offending Chinese communist susceptibilities. Certainly Peking will only accept democracy in Hongkong on its own terms – that is, a limited democracy, carefully controlled. But the British authorities there should not let this become a pretext for doing too little and too late.

There are other demands which, unfortunately, no British government could accede to. It is beyond the power of any government, either in London or in Peking, to guarantee absolutely the course of events in the next century. One can only note that Peking has always been scrupulous in observing international agreements. Its assurances about Hongkong will be given within the framework of such an agreement, and its international reliability will thus depend on their implementation. That is in itself a form of guarantee.

There are also practical political limits to what can be done for British Dependent Territory passport-holders and – while every effort must be made to open Britain's doors to those in Hongkong with convincing reasons to fear the future, or to find homes for them elsewhere – it is better to acknowledge this sad fact than to pretend otherwise. With a draft Sino-British agreement now only a few months away, it is important to strike the right balance between what is needed and what is feasible.

When the House of Commons comes to debate Hongkong later this week it will serve the people of the colony best by bearing this in mind.

TURKEY CONDEMNED BUT NOT SANCTIONED

"History will recall how a community fighting for nothing but its liberty has been treated by this body," said Mr Rauf Denktas, the Turkish-Cypriot leader, commenting on the resolution passed by the UN Security Council on Friday night. He called it a "Greek-Cypriot resolution supported by people who do not know where Cyprus is".

In point of fact most of those who supported the resolution know all too well where Cyprus is, and few better than the government of the United Kingdom. Any who might not have been fully up to date on the Cyprus problem had the benefit of an admirably detailed and clear report from the Secretary-General, circulated on May 2. In it he gave an account of the latest phase of his "good offices" mission – the phase that followed the Security Council's condemnation of the Turkish-Cypriot UDI last November.

However negative in itself, the UDI did at least have the merit of reviving international concern about the Cyprus issue. Encouraged both by the Turkish government and by President

on April 10 that his community would go ahead with a constitutional referendum and then elections, and on April 17 formal diplomatic relations were established between his state and the Republic of Turkey.

As Señor Pérez de Cuellar puts it, "the developments outlined in this report speak for themselves". Mr Denktas, as has long been obvious to anyone who follows his conduct in detail rather than merely listens to his rhetoric, does not want a federal solution. He prefers to be the president of his Lilliputian state.

The Turkish government might prefer a federal solution in theory but finds it easier politically to support Mr Denktas. The United States would prefer a negotiated solution of some sort, but finds it strategically inexpedient to have a serious argument with Turkey hence the American abstention on Friday night. Other powers would like the Turkish attitude to be different but do not see anything practical they can do about it. So the Turks are condemned but not sanctioned, and the UN system loses a little more of its credibility.

THE VIEW FROM CABLE STREET

The best place to watch the London Marathon is half-way down the course in Cable Street, Stepney, where the East Enders go. The road is narrow, lived-in and legendary for an altogether nastier spectacle, the famous 1936 battle between the police and anti-fascists determined to erect a barricade against a march by Mosley's British Union of Fascists. Yesterday the sun shone, the police were affable, a steel band played and produced an electric effect on the runners. Mr Jonathan Aitken, MP, gave the schoolchildren beating their drums a gracious wave, others jiggled, many adjusted their pace to the rhythm nearly all smiled. A schoolteacher from a nearby borough stopped and adopted a mock athletic pose for his adoring pupils cheering at the roadside. Athletes carried placards advertising charities (there was one supporting the miners). There were horses, a Mickey Mouse, Superman and a lion-shaped phalanx of Vikings. Once the front-runners had swept by, it was easy to forget in Cable Street that this was one of the great events in the world marathon calendar.

In four years the London Marathon has become an institution in a country where it usually takes centuries rather than decades to become a tradition. It is now as much of a

feature of the sporting year as Henley, Ascot and Wimbledon. Already it has an air of timelessness. It would be highly unfortunate, therefore, if the abolition of the Greater London Council, which plays an important year-round administrative role in supporting the marathon, damaged its smooth continuation.

Seven London boroughs are traversed by the runners. Each will receive a share of yesterday's profits of £50,000. If no post-GLC contingency plan is in place, a file should be opened today by Mr Christopher Brasher and Mr John Disney, the founding fathers of the race. Next year's marathon seems secure. But Mr Brasher reckons a race with so many finishers could not be staged in 1986 and beyond without the continuation of County Hall.

The London Marathon is the most visible part of a wider phenomenon – the running boom that has hit Britain in the past decade. Last year 136 marathons were run in the United Kingdom involving an estimated 149,000 finishers – from the 15,775 who crossed the line in London to the 30 who completed the course in the Isles of Scilly. London is by no means the toughest on the athletes. That honour seems to be shared by the Snowdonia and Duchy of Cornwall marathons with 460 and 142 finishers respectively.

Sectional views in mining industry

From Mr Joe Ashton, MP for Basildon (Labour)

Sir. For nine weeks now my constituency of Basildon, North Nottinghamshire, has been a no-man's land between the Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire miners.

Children, especially since the disruption of free school meals by the teachers, are living on soup or beans.

Nationally, well over 2,000 miners have been arrested and usually handcuffed, imprisoned, photographed and fingerprinted too. I personally was detained by police and refused permission to visit pits in my own constituency on a "freedom ride" to show a busload of journalists what was happening.

Yet the Prime Minister, in the steps of Downing Street, promised to bring harmony into discord, does nothing.

It is obvious the Nottinghamshire miners will not strike without a ballot because they work in long-life pits. Against this we have the miners of Wales and Kent and Scotland saying why should a Nottinghamshire miner in a safe pit have a vote to put them out of a job?

What is not generally realized is that coalfields are competitive. The closure of one pit can mean a sigh of relief in another. To insist on a national ballot is as logical as demanding that members of the NLU on *The Sunday Times* should have a vote on the future of *The Observer*.

However, there is one simple proposal the Prime Minister could make to get the two sides around the table. That is to offer a substantial reduction in the price of electricity. It would keep pits open, help our industry to compete with foreign goods, bring down inflation, and might even gain Mrs Thatcher lots of votes from pensioners.

The savings on the high redundancy pay and long-term unemployment, plus the current surcharge on gas, electricity, and North Sea oil, would easily absorb it. So would cancelling the Sizewell nuclear power station which we don't need.

We have so much energy in this country it ought to be coming out of the plug on the wall like water out of a tap, with each sector being used to coordinate into an energy policy which is best for Britain.

Yet, unlike any other businessman who cuts the price when there is a glut, including farmers and the EEC, the Government keeps the price of energy high, sacrificing thousands of jobs, to provoke punch-ups on picket lines.

Harmony into discord? Tell it to the kids living on soup, Mrs Thatcher.

Yours sincerely,
JOE ASHTON,
House of Commons.

Grim outlook for arts

From Professor Sir Ernst Gombrich, FBA

Sir. Mr Wealands Bell (May 4) should not be allowed to confuse the issue raised by Professor Berthoud's warning (April 27) about the future of the arts.

Granted that we educators must never be complacent while the majority of our fellow citizens have found no access to the riches of great literature, great art or great music, should not this sad situation make us resist all the more those ominous attempts to deprive the flickering lamps of civilization of the last drop of this financial fuel?

Yours etc,

E. H. GOMBRICH,
19 Briardale Gardens, NW3.

May 4.

Ultra in the East

From Mr James Rusbridger

Sir. Before Professor Hinsley writes his final account of Allied signals (report, May 3) intelligence in the last war, I hope he will be allowed to include details of operations in the Far East. The Foreign Office still refuses to release any Japanese Ultra for public inspection claiming that to do so would not be in the public interest.

Yours faithfully,

JAMES RUSBRIDGER,

7 Tremena Road,

St Austell,

Cornwall.

May 4.

Mr Botha's visit

From the Director General of the Africa Centre

Sir. Your comment (leading article, May 8) on Prime Minister Botha's invitation to Downing Street poses many questions. For example, is it really open to "philosophical disputation without end" that a system discriminating on the basis of the colour of a man's skin is possibly no worse than one that discriminates on the basis of opinions and beliefs?

There can at least be a semblance of intellectual justification for opposing a person's ideas – governments and individuals – to some degree restrict the individual's freedom on this basis all the time – but to legislate against someone and to deny him fundamental liberties because one dislikes his hue is unjust, unreasonable and inhuman.

Similarly your editorial wonders whether there are rational grounds for condemning Mr Botha's forthcoming visit unless one is dedicated to "the total overthrow of the system" in South Africa rather than its "evolution". You imply that only extremists could take such a view, but I doubt if any decent person could hold back from utter condemnation of a system based on discrimination by pigmentation and which to date has supplied no evidence of a serious commitment towards eventual equality of the races.

In our determination to find the funds to buy the medal, our belief that this regiment is the fitting holder of this significant award is sustained by the entry in Captain Scott's diary:

Botha's last thoughts were of his mother, but immediately before that he took pride in thinking that his Regiment would be pleased with the bold way in which he met his death.

We are indeed proud of him and, as you may know, to this day celebrate annually his example of courage, both in the regiment and in London.

Yours faithfully,
ALLAN FINDLAY,

Home Headquarters,

5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards,

Upmeadow Lodge,

Graffham,

Petworth, West Sussex.

Though it is a standard argument

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Checks and balances for Ireland

From Mr J. E. Hamilton

Sir. Mr Peter Jay's forthright presumption (May 4) that "Westminster has the right to act without the consent of the people of Northern Ireland and (b) expressing the opinion that a democratic united Ireland is a solution, would somehow lead Ulster Protestants to think the least, paradoxical.

I do not follow how being robbed of your nationality against your will and then being propelled into adopting another nationality that you plainly do not want would encourage a single Loyalist to think positively at all.

Peter Jay, having discovered that it is not very rewarding to keep, say, half a million Irish people against their will as citizens of the United Kingdom, seeks apparently to double his error by consigning about a million British people against their will to citizenship of a united Ireland.

The nationalistic link of these half million Irish proved capable of withstanding 60 years of indoctrination by the UK. Peter Jay gives not one scrap of evidence to suggest that the British in Ireland, summarily sold off, will not prove as determined, and indigestible to his

Protestants as the sole villains of the piece.

He forgets that Westminster

in the 1920s, almost unbelievably,

failed miserably to provide any

checks and balances to the Stormont system at all. Ulster issues could not be debated in Westminster, what

occurred for 40 years at Stormont was done with the deliberate

connivance of successive British governments.

What we learn from this is that

any permanent settlement must

contain checks and balances to

prevent the majority – any majority

– from repeating those

practices.

Yours faithfully,

J. E. HAMILTON.

Avenmore,

West Glaston.

Kilmacolm,

Renfrewshire.

May 9.

Scoring points in the Olympics

From Dom David Morland, OSB

Sir. The Soviet Union would be better advised to prove the superiority of the Communist system to American capitalism by sending their athletes to Los Angeles and winning medals rather than by staying away.

After all if ever there was a regime where a boycott might have been justified, it was that of Hitler's Germany and yet, in the Berlin Olympics of 1936 the refutation of the myth of white Aryan supremacy was far more effectively achieved by Jesse Owens' victories than by any refusal to attend.

Yours etc,

DAVID MORLAND.

Gilling Castle,

York.

May 11.

From Mr John Heller

Sir. At the risk of appearing to take an over-simplistic view of the matter, might I ask what is the dramatic change in the Soviet stance in Afghanistan over the past four years which makes the Americans so keen to compete in Los Angeles in 1984 against Russian athletes whom they shunned in Moscow in 1980?

Should we not rather take some comfort from the fact that the absence of heavily state-subsidized athletes from the Eastern bloc countries might turn the Olympics back closer to their genuine amateur ideals and origins?

Yours faithfully,

JOHN HELLER.

11

Gatwick express

Probably the most annoying aspect of air travel, aside from the cost, is the extra time spent getting to and from the airport: a longer time, on many short-haul routes, than the flight itself. From today, the British Airports Authority and British Rail are doing their best to sweeten the pill with the inauguration of the Gatwick Express.

The Gatwick Express shares up to 12 minutes off the previous travel time between Victoria station and Gatwick airport, a time saving of 25 per cent. The new non-stop service takes 30 minutes and operates at 15 minute intervals throughout the day. (Night services will commence hourly, at the previous speeds, between midnight and 0530.)

There is more to the new service than speed and convenience, however. British Rail likes to think that it has created a package that will "complement the style, luxury and convenience of air travel". Gatwick, the world's fifth busiest international airport, is the only one in this country where the railway station has been built as an integral part of its facilities. From today the "integration" of the passenger will begin at Victoria.

Platforms 13 and 14 will serve the Gatwick Express

A faster and more comfortable non-stop rail service opens today between London's Victoria Station and Gatwick Airport.

exclusively, and nearby will be a special rail/sir ticket office separate from those used by the majority of Victoria's 150,000 passengers daily, with a separate waiting lounge for Gatwick passengers.

The new trains themselves,

which will travel at speeds up to 90mph, comprise an electric locomotive hauling seven second class passenger coaches and one first class plus a baggage van. Seats total 392 second class and 42 first class per train.

The rolling stock has been kitted out in a distinctive livery of dark and light grey, red and white, with the air traveller in mind, carriage doors

have been made extra wide, interior sliding doors are automatic and, in addition to the baggage car, what British Rail describes as "an extravagance of luggage space" has been built in overhead and between the seats.

British Rail carries about two thirds of Gatwick's 12 million air-line passengers annually. By the 1990s, when the second terminal is fully operational, the total is expected to double. The airport has processed as many as 70,000 passengers in one day, 30,000 of them travelling by train.

Unsurprisingly, the recently completed £11m modernisation at the airport and station has taken account of those figures.

The concourse is built over the six station platforms; its eight-window ticket office serves any British Rail station. A travel centre next door offers, in addition to its comprehensive rail information service, bookings for train journeys virtually anywhere in Europe, including sleeping car, Motorail, Sealink car and passenger ferries, and the Hover-speed cross-channel service. There are more than 150 check-in desks. (Incoming passengers can put to good use



the time spent waiting for their baggage from the plane: rail tickets are on sale at a special desk.)

For the time being, British Caledonian passengers will have an edge on the others: they will be able to check their heavier luggage in at Victoria, whence it will travel direct to the aircraft via the luggage van on the train.

The service is hoped to be extended in all Gatwick passengers in due course.

Departing and arriving passengers are well catered for. Once past security and passport checks, international passengers are offered a 24-hour service at huffet, bar and bookstall, as well

as the usual duty-free shopping. In-hotel passengers, once through one of the 20 immigration desks, can wait comfortably in a "huffer lounge" (with pay phones and courtesy phones for car-hire and hotel bookings).

The usual banks, bookshop, Post Office and information desks are open on the main concourse level in the terminal, but catering facilities have been separated to relieve congestion in the check-in area. Above the concourse on the third floor are two buffets and bars, a pastrym that sells salads and sandwiches, a 24-hour fast food unit and a restaurant.

Gatwick's facilities for disabled passengers have earned awards from the British Tourist Authority and the Central Council for the Disabled. A leaflet published by the British Airports Authority, *What Looks After You at Gatwick Airport*, spells out those facilities with diagrams and minimum access measurements.

The leaflet also maps the locations of lifts and toilets for disabled passengers, shows ramp gradients, and explains such special facilities as telephones at wheelchair-level and an inductive loop system to help people with hearing aids hear announcements.

The Gatwick Express will

then be "the fastest, most reliable and direct city centre to airport connection in the country," according to British Rail.

There is no supplementary charge for the service. Second class fares between London Victoria and Gatwick are £3.30 adult single, 26.60 return; children under five travel free, or at half fare up to 15 years. First class fares are 50 per cent more than second class. Through tickets to Gatwick can be bought at any London Underground station, at the normal Victoria-Gatwick fare plus the tube fare to Victoria.

Tony Samstag

Fast, frequent and comfortable

All over the world greater London's M25 orbital motorway will greatly improve road access from London and the north in two years' time.

Now, the four million passengers out of the airport's annual total of 12 to 13 million currently reach Gatwick by rail are expected to rise to about eight million out of 25 million by the 1990s, when Gatwick's second terminal will be open.

For British Rail, that means additional revenue of around £25m at 1984 prices by the mid-1990s.

For 50 years Gatwick has been struggling to establish itself as a major international airport, while suffering from the twin drawbacks of a poor geographical position - 28 miles from London compared with 15 to Heathrow and on the opposite side of the capital from the other main centres of population in the Midlands, west and north - and poor land connections.

Travelling by road between Gatwick and central London has meant struggling through a throng of suburban shopping centres with pedestrian crossings, traffic lights and traffic jams for much of the day, while travelling from the northern Home Counties that provide much of its catchment area has until recently been even more of a nightmare.

Travelling by rail has been much better, but still, until today, far short of what can be expected by international travellers elsewhere.

Gatwick was in fact the first airport anywhere in the world to have its own railway station. But from the time its station started to operate in 1935 it has mostly been one of a string along the London-Brighton line, using much the same rolling stock terminals, and timetables as the other stopping and commuter services of one of Britain's busiest railways.

That in the face of these obstacles Gatwick has succeeded in establishing itself as Britain's second international airport and the world's fifth owes much to its sheer attractiveness and efficiency as an airport as well as the steady growth in international traffic through London.

High-grade and air-conditioned

From today however, Gatwick's inherent attractiveness as an airport will be greatly enhanced by a surface connection of like quality. The new Gatwick Express - fast, frequent, and comfortable - will provide the kind of surface connection it would have had to start with were these things being done now.

Though not completely new, the trains are high-grade air-conditioned inter-city stock newly refurbished, with special attention to baggage storage on the train, and ease of access and egress. The trains will run every 15 minutes throughout the day and much of the night. And as a result of a huge modernization by British Rail in track and signalling on the Brighton Line, the interruptions and delays suffered by travellers should be eliminated.

Without this new investment the railways could hardly have hoped to hold on to their third share of Gatwick traffic as the airport continues to expand, especially when completion of

Victoria

Battersea Park

Clapham Jct.

Wandsworth Common

Balham

Streatham Common

Norbury

Thornton Heath

SELHURST

Gatwick

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The long and the short of it is that Gatwick is now more easily accessible from London.

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And that's not counting Victoria.

British
Airports

THE WORLD'S MOST SUCCESSFUL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT SYSTEM

Michael Baily
Transport Editor

Despite stress, apoplexy, confusion and frustration, Robin Young finds other ways to ease the journey

Victoria here I come, and on time, too

There are statistics to show that the incidence of stress symptoms, apoplexy and heart failure is higher at airports than anywhere else on earth, even including railway stations. There are few people left who harbour the illusion that travel is fun. No matter how exciting the destination, we, nowadays, realize that getting there is likely to be damned hard work. Having the physique, having the temper, add ultimately, destroying human dignity.

The one cardinal rule for surviving the *misery* of the confusion, the frustrating queues, the uncertainty of what to do or where to go, next is, of course, always to have plenty of time in hand. Travel at the earliest opportunity, not the latest. Take the train two (or three) ahead of the one you would have first thought of, and you will stay comfortably ahead of the crowd stampeding to get where you have just been.

The general tendency is to leave things till late on the assumption that railway stations and airports are unpleasant places to be. But it is really being late, rushed and panicky that contributes most to making them so. Have time to look around you, and to study how they work, and transport facilities become much more sympathetic.

Victoria itself has surely the smartest address of all the London rail termini. Comfortably ensconced between Belgravia, Pimlico and Westminster, it certainly cannot be accused of having dragged the area down. From the point of view of surrounding amenities and attractions it is the best served of all London stations.

Intending travellers who had planned their trips well in advance could, for example, conveniently eat in some of the best restaurants in London before quitting the capital. Ebury Street offers, within a short stroll of the station, Ken Lo's cool and tasteful Memories of China for those inclined to

A welcome bed for new arrivals

Setting out well fed is essential to the art of travelling comfortably, and if it means breakfast that can be had at small restaurants outside the station, such as Grandma Lee's, or, more substantially, in the imposing Grosvenor Hotel which has direct access to the station and which can also offer late night arrivals a welcoming bed and bath at £39 a single or £23 each in a double, so much the better.

None of the forgoing recommendations is intended to scorn the efforts of Travellers' Fare, but necessarily the on-station catering facilities do aim particularly at providing for

spice their appetite for travel with something deliciously oriental. Mijanou, for those who like something classy in the French style, and Dulcinea a resolutely appointed and underappreciated Spanish restaurant with one of the most extraordinary wine lists in London. Another option is Belgravia's neighbourhood cafe, Eatons in Elizabeth Street, where a meal of deep-fried mushrooms, calves liver and homemade cheese will satisfy the most demanding palate.

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Above, members of the Transport Users Consultative Committee relax on a timetested run of the new train from Victoria, and left how it was... a vintage steam locomotive moves past work for the new terminal and flyover in September 1957. This picture was taken from the old Gatwick racecourse station.

those in a hurry, which the well-advised traveller is not. Still, for those with no time to look elsewhere there are 10 bars and buffets about the station, the first opening at 6.30 am and the last closing at 11 pm. Most useful of all, perhaps, is the Casey Jones fast hamburger bar which, experimentally at least, is opening during the summer from 5 am until two the following morning.

From six in the morning until nine at night Gatwick has its own ticket office, beside platforms 15 to 19. At other times, when there are unlikely to be queues, tickets come from the main windows. A rarity at inner-city railway stations these days, the Gatwick ticket office provides eight seats in a waiting room, with an indicator announcing the next departure.

The left luggage office is close at hand: there are lockers in the middle of the station for those travelling when it is closed.

Before leaving Victoria the daytime traveller can get a shave (70p); wash, and brush-up and shave (30p); confirm or revise flight arrangements with British Airways or British Caledonian; buy fresh fruit or flowers; get passport photos from a machine; change money (but banks give better rates than the bureaux de change); and buy books, newspapers or magazines from W. H. Smith.

On arrival at Gatwick, everything is clearly posted for those who have time to look around. It is those who are racing against time who, sadly,

are almost predestined to lose their way.

Check baggage in and be rid of it as soon as you can. Decide now at what time you will yourself go through the controls which take you airoside. If you have nothing else to do, or if seat allocation is to be at the departure gate or on a first-come-first-served basis, it is as well to go through straight away.

But if you want to eat at Gatwick, there are more choice landside. Catering is concentrated on the third floor of the terminal building, one floor above the main concourse. The Panorama Grill restaurant opens for breakfast at 6.30am and runs through lunch, afternoon tea and dinner until 10pm. The Gatwick Pantry also has waitress service, but serves lighter meals - freshly toasted sandwiches, home-made soup, pasta dishes, and their own

freshly baked *baguettes*. In summer it is open from six in the morning till eight at night.

One of the self-service buffets, the London Pride, is open 24 hours a day, with fare changing to suit the time. Another, the Speedwell, supplements it from 7am to 7pm in summer, serving the same selection.

Do not expect, however, to be able to use these facilities without queueing. You may be lucky, but at peak times all are fully stretched. Hence the wisdom of eating before leaving London if possible.

Opportunities for refreshment are not exhausted once you go airoside. There is a 24-hour buffet in the departure lounge, but its selection is more limited than those outside.

Drinkers, though, have some advantage being airoside, where the bar is always open. Lan-

dside, ordinary pub licensing hours have to be observed.

You should, in any case, be airoside soon enough to consider carefully whether you want to buy duty-free goods.

The target saving in the duty-free shops liquor and tobacco is about 40 per cent of the retail price in Britain. Know your price comparisons, resist impulse purchases, but look around for anything a bit special which might be a treat. Single malt whiskies are particularly good value at present, but there is no reason to be tooting table wine to France or sherry back to Spain.

These purchases settled, reclaim your seat in the departure lounge, within view of the announcement board, and calmly study the frenetic behaviour and harrowed expressions of those who have organized themselves less thoroughly than you. Do not, at this late stage, succumb to the temptation to rush to a telephone to ask a neighbour to check that you turned the gas off... or should you?

Sandwiches by the thousand, plus a porter

Though it is a complicated accretion of buildings of different date, and even now partially dead or night, it is no longer depressing or frightening. On my nocturnal foray, railmen were patiently cleaning. There was a convivial good-night from an alert ticket collector. Inquiries were being courteously dealt with by the first-class ticket window.

Yet I found that if Victoria is rather eerily quiet and empty at dead of night, it is no longer depressing or frightening. On my nocturnal foray, railmen were patiently cleaning. There was a convivial good-night from an alert ticket collector. Inquiries were being courteously dealt with by the first-class ticket window.

There were both taxis and night buses standing outside ready to whisk me away, though of course the three Underground lines were now all closed.

Gatwick, by contrast, can be as busy at 2am as it is at 3pm. Busy in winter, the traffic doubles in summer and the numbers can only be accommodated by stretching the hours the airport is at work. Places that may be making one trip out and back in winter are likely to be making three in summer. First departures are earlier, last arrivals later.

There are more than 70 concerns at work within Gatwick Airport. The total work force is estimated to be 13,500. Even at the unearliest of hours there are hundreds of people about the place.

The caterers, for example, will have 30 or 40 at work as a minimum, some staffing the 24-hour buffets, and others hard at it in the production kitchens preparing for the morning rush. They make and fill no fewer than 25,000 sandwiches a week, and the aim is to have everything sold within seven hours of its being made.

The duty free shops employ up to 350 staff in peak season. They stay open through the night because it is simpler to keep staff on duty than to transport them away as late as the shop could close and back as early as they would need to open.

The cleaners, too, are at work round the clock, 200 of them working in three eight-hour shifts. It is the night shift, of course, who provide the deep clean because, simply, it is difficult pushing brooms and sweepers about the place when it is full of thousands of people.

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THE ARTS

Television
Football
pride

Liverpool, with much to be disgruntled about, finds sustenance in its football. This week Everton will come south for the FA Cup: Liverpool, League Champions again, pursue the European Cup in Rome. It has been a good year. In March, a third of the city's menfolk absented themselves to descend on Wembley, where the two teams faced each other for the first time in a hundred years in the Milk Cup.

Granada, alert to history, put five camera teams on the job, rather extravagant but understandable. Unsurprisingly they failed to detect any milk being drunk but they followed a coachload of Everton supporters, picking them out in the crowd, kept an eye on their wives (liberation being differently interpreted up there, they were mainly at home), peeped in on the respective teams' dressing rooms, and even into Walton jail where two gentlemen, unavoidably detained, were making do with television and binging Mars bars on the result.

Heaven knows how much film from this prodigious effort is kicking about on the cutting-room floor, but what we saw of the director David Drury's effort made good viewing in Home and Away on Saturday night. It also did something to lighten the image of football crowds. Though this was a local derby, everyone seemed to put city pride first. As one Evertorian said: "The eyes of the world will be on us down there. People will see Liverpool and Everton supporters together and they will say 'They can't all be bad'."

Quite so. There was no trouble and, of course, there were no goals either. It ended with supporters singing not their separate chants but a resounding, fraternal "Merseyside". The whole thing was repeated at Maine Road, where Liverpool won with a single goal.

Even the policemen appeared to enjoy the Wembley meet, one feeling bold enough to suggest to some pensioners that, despite their presence, the Queen Mother was actually a Manchester United supporter. A slander, no doubt.

BBC2 last night started its three-part Polish drama series Friends, written by Aleksander Minkowski and directed by Andrzej Kostenko. This picture of life in Poland in 1945 apparently caused a sensation there in the peak days of Solidarity but, sadly, did not transfer well. Unless the subsequent films take off early, however sympathetic you may be, you will need to be Polish too.

Dennis Hackett

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Barbara Wood, whose biography of her father, Fritz Schumacher, is just published, believes his philosophy is vitally topical: interview by Caroline Moorehead

Growing struggle against arrogance

With confusion in the coalfields in its third month, there has just appeared a life of Fritz Schumacher, the German economist-philosopher who spent 20 mostly frustrating years of his life trying and failing to shape the policies of the National Coal Board. The author of *Alias Papa* is Barbara Wood, his eldest daughter. "I find it extraordinary that in all this dispute no one has really raised the arguments he kept putting forward – the need to understand what nationalization really means and how in a time of crisis it should involve real debate about the future of energy and the world's resources." Dozens of his papers, she says, neglected then, would make instructive reading now.

Barbara Wood was the third of Schumacher's eight children, and the second youngest of his first marriage. Her earliest memories coincide with a major emotional and intellectual break in his thinking that came in the late Forties and altogether changed the direction and shape of his future. Until shortly after the war, Schumacher was a rigid, personally somewhat overconfident economist, pursuing economic thought along Keynesian lines and closely concerned with money markets.

"Immediately after the war he went back to Germany as adviser to the British Control Commission. He felt he had a mission to rebuild Germany. But being there he realized it was no longer possible. After Hitler and the war nothing was as he had expected. He started believing that education had failed in something fundamental. Coming back to Caterham, where we lived, working in the garden close to the soil, made him realize that there were things in life that were not rational and that couldn't be explained by rational means. From that moment on, there was a different orientation in his life. And that, for me, was why he was a great man; he had the courage to struggle against arrogance, and go for the things behind it."

In 1946 Schumacher became a naturalized British subject (though he never lost his German accent) and not long afterwards settled to a domestic



Barbara Wood: "What was curious was that I felt so detached..."

family existence near London. He stopped seeming so remote and became a man who was "warm, affectionate, more demonstrative and mellow". Professionally, while working for the NCB, he moved sharply away from traditional economics towards Eastern teaching and mysticism towards "Buddhist economics" and "nature's larder", towards concern for the roots of poverty and the need to make technology appropriate to its setting. This eventually culminated in *Small Is Beautiful*, which soon became both best-seller and cult. As he became more famous, more a guru, he travelled incessantly. At home, he gardened, experimenting with the Soil Association methods of organic cultivation and exasperating neighbours with his cartloads of pig manure. He grew trees. The children baked bread with him every week.

How did Barbara Wood come to write the biography? "I had always been my dream. He was a marvellous story-teller about his own life. After he died I assumed some famous writer would take it up. When my stepmother heard how much I wanted to do it she encouraged me." The book has taken her nearly seven years to produce. "At first I assumed it would be quite short, based on the things I knew about. Then I found that he had kept every letter, every note, right back to his library

tickets from his first days in America." The title comes from an inscription Schumacher wrote in the copy of *A Guide for the Perplexed*, his somewhat neglected philosophical statement, that he gave her the day before his sudden death on a train in Switzerland in 1977. "To Barbara Wood," he put, "whose existence fills me with admiration and delight, from E. F. Schumacher, alias Papa." In content, the book is anecdotal rather than critical, though the tone is consciously impersonal. Schumacher is Fritz, not Papa. "What was curious was that I felt so detached", she says. "The only hard part was rediscovering my mother, who died when

I was 14. I felt I could not judge him. I could only concentrate on how he got where he did."

It remains true, she adds, that Schumacher's impact is not easy to evaluate. "His influence on people everywhere in the Seventies was enormous – but it was never measurable." The Intermediate Technology Development Group he founded lives on, with many people working for it, but ever short of money; a Schumacher Centre was planned but failed to be born; in Germany Schumacher ideas are held by the Greens. "Had there in fact been a 'Centre', says Barbara Wood, "I'm not sure it would have meant anything. It wasn't what he was about. He was concerned with individuals pulling their weight and making sure the world survives. The system consists of us."

The Schumacher children themselves have played out their legacy with honour. Between them, the four who are adults have 13 children. Barbara Wood's eldest brother is a businessman, applying his father's principles to industrial processes; the second son is a carpenter and trout farmer; her younger sister bottles spring water in Wales.

Barbara Wood read History and Economics before working on low-cost housing for the TDF. A tall, thin woman with red cheeks and immensely bright blue eyes, she conveys warmth and tolerance. Her six children – the two youngest were born while she was writing the book – are the all-consuming centre of her life.

As I was leaving her house in Kew, full of plants and well-worn, comfortable furniture, she suddenly remembered a point she had forgotten to make in the book. "My father hated television. I'm grateful now he never let us have one. He used to say that all the feelings of responsibility people have for each other are lost in all that watching. Children forget how to play." *Alias Papa* published, she hopes now to turn back to the philosophical papers her father left – on non-violence, for instance – and try to reintroduce to a generation of rather unthinking converts to Schumacher's ideas some of the roots of his philosophy.

Concerts

EBF/Roblou
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Bach was a committed Lutheran, and his music both used Luther's own hymns and, more importantly, shows deep appreciation of Luther's theological understanding of the liturgy.

It was thus apt for the English Bach Festival to put together a programme which demonstrated this influence, but it was scarcely an audience-grabbing event. It was also a little didactic to provide so bald a sequence of *Ein Fest Burg* settings, Luther's own melody, *Vulpius* and then Bach's harmonization. Bach's organ prelude and then his *Cantata No. 80*.

A couple of them gave excellent traditional renderings of the solo arias, but together their effect was hopelessly muddy and unclear. This removed much of the force from the superb opening and closing choruses of the *G minor Mass* heard in the first half. Less relevant was the first Orchestral Suite (at least a Brandenburg or two might have increased the audience size); though it was lively, it had none of the Dutch baroque performances which the Festival so memorably introduced to this country years ago.

Nicholas Kenyon

brand of expressionism remains his own.

Vic Hoyland's extraordinary *Michelangelo* unconsciously inhabits the more garish nightmare world of Maxwell Davies's *Eight Songs for a Mad King*. Michelangelo himself is portrayed by a mime-speaker, here the impassioned David Sawyer, who occupied a central dais clad in a curious leather contraption. Hoyland's texts, which combine the words of Solenn Vespers with fragments of Michelangelo's own writing, reflect the agonizing contradictions of his subject, torn between humanism and religion, Satan and God, his own ugliness and the beauty of David. The music is correspondingly fitful; serenity is quickly interrupted by brash violence, and a male chorus's amplified incantations conspire with whispers or terrifying screams.

Again, the performance was captivating, as was that of Kage's bafflingly hilarious *Pas de Cinq*, where five male dancers, elegantly dressed in straw boaters and white, parade on a series of catwalks arranged within a pentagon, making the music with their feet. As a sideways look at the way people behave when they pass each other in the street, it is both an enlightening and entertaining essay. But its ramifications probably extend much further.

Stephen Pettitt

Opera

**Il matrimonio
segreto**

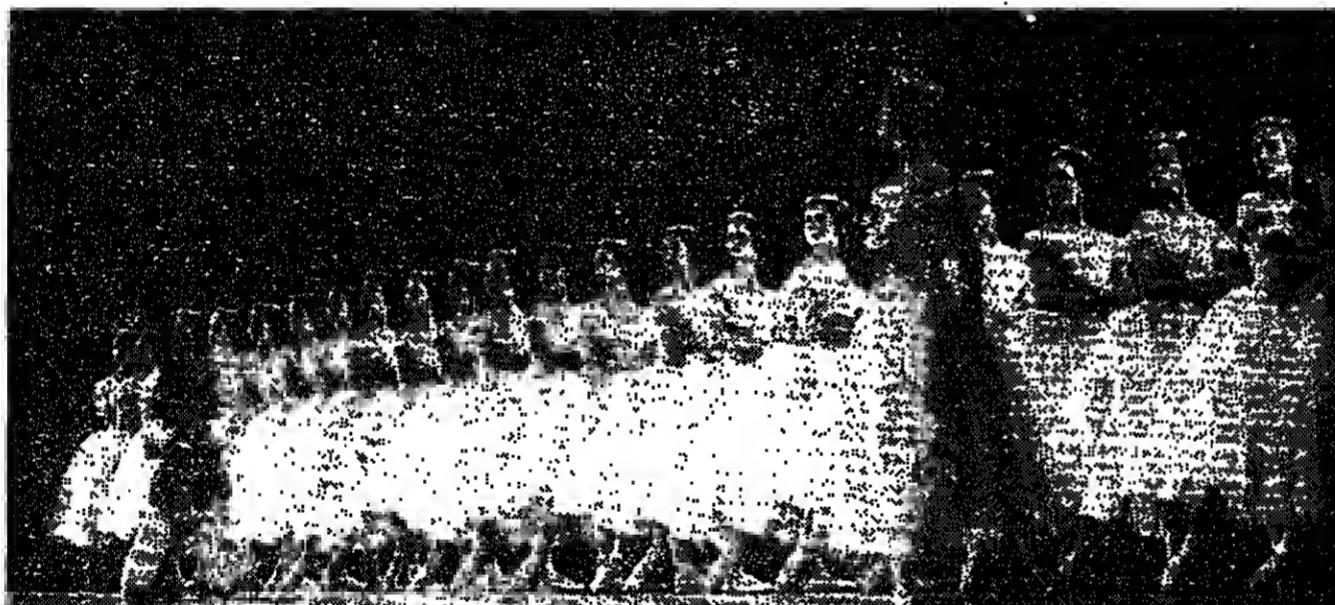
Theatre Royal,
Brighton

This is not much to go on, and Edward Kimieciewicz as the merchant, Geronimo, does not have much voice to go on either, but he used it remarkably vividly.

Of his two daughters, the less attractive, Krystyna Kolakowska as Elise, persistently fainting away as the story took another twist, had a firmer touch and stronger vocal line. Krystyna Sierakowska as the heroine Carpinella was brighter but less secure in the higher reaches of her part. She was however saddled with a secret husband, Kazimierz Myriak as Paolino, whose slightly nasal tenor wore a perpetual frown of comic seriousness.

The chief glory of Cimarosa's score is its rich sequence of ensembles, and one might have expected from a chamber ensemble a more acute blending and responsiveness in the duets. And, in the finales, the structural points needed to be highlighted dramatically as well as they were musically by the conductor Tomasz Bugaj and his plucky, sprightly chamber orchestra.

Nicholas Kenyon



The Wilis of *Giselle*, with one of their victims

but he achieves some striking theatrical effects, especially in his imaginatively comic treatment of the "Mousetrap" play, or the two groups watching Ophelia's madness, some horrified, others lecherously encouraging depravity. The anonymous sound collage is sometimes most effective.

A modern-dress reader at the beginning and end is meant to suggest the subject's timelessness, but the dominating presence of armed guards all through does more to put a contemporary gloss on events.

Lazarillo Carreno makes a strong, doom-laden hero, and Francisco Salgado's forceful Laertes contributes strongly.

At Covent Garden on Thursday the Royal Ballet showed a new cast in *Giselle*. Wayne Eagling danced explosively in the sarabande but for some reason imposed irrelevant

dramatic flummery on this abstract choreography with fierce grimaces. Genesis Rosato's balances were good in the bransles sequence but a more nonchalant chic would not have been amiss. Derek Dean has revised his recent *Fleeting Figures*, deleting the supporting ensemble from the adagio, but it leaves the choreography only marginally less fidgety.

Ivan Tenorio's *Hanlei* includes so much detail that anyone not thoroughly familiar with the play may get confused.

John Percival

PUBLISHING

A market for books of peace

"March for Military Books"

was a campaign mounted a couple of months ago by the Book Marketing Council to persuade people to buy more books about war. The campaign of two columns of booted feet marching. Below the logo are the following words: "A Special Interest Publishers Group Promotion". Military books are doing increasingly well in this country at present. The only consolation of the campaign, in Orwell's 1984, is that books about war are regarded, apparently, as "a special interest" rather than universal.

By way of retaliation, the Book Action for Nuclear Disarmament group is setting up a National Peace Book Week. The work to be promoted will include biography, poetry, fiction and children's titles. The Book Marketing Council has not volunteered to assist.

Down the years a great deal of nonsense has been spoken and written about the retail price of books. They are either too expensive or too cheap. No one ever suggests they are the price they should be. It was utterly predictable, indeed inevitable, that someone would weigh in in refutation of my piece about the net book agreement as did those admirable and successful booksellers, Robert Clow and Willie Anderson of John Smith & Son Ltd of Glasgow, in a recent letter to the editor.

They said, *inter alia*, that the price of books compares favourably with a meal in a restaurant, a pair of shoes (sic) or a visit to a theatre. This I would not refute except to say that you cannot, or should not, literally eat books or easily wear them although you can. I suppose, visit your bookshelves. What I

would argue with is their assumption that any or almost any, expensive and/or "scholarly" book is necessarily a good thing. A read through of *The Times Literary Supplement* makes it clear that too many such books are doing little more than flattering their authors' egos or helping their job prospects. Because of the net book agreement too many titles purporting to scholarship are produced in tiny quantities and priced outrageously. My contention is that if the agreement went publishers would be more discriminating in what they brought out, not less.

A bookseller, even more prominent in the affairs of the Booksellers Association than Mr Clow and Mr Anderson, has written to me: "I found your comments on the future demise of the net book agreement stimulating and very much in line with my feelings on the subject. The most important thing for retailers is to recognize the inevitability of its eventual demise – but what does one do if one has a medium-sized bookshop in a small town where Smith's already dominate the market so that one would be unable to compete if the net book agreement went?"

Which seems to me the point. W. H. Smith's shops are of a certain kind, most other British bookshops of a different sort. For better or for worse, the net book agreement cannot be with us for ever. Let us have fewer books, better written, edited, produced and marketed, and let the retail trade take pride in being able to cope with that state of affairs when it arrives.

Robson Books publish in September the autobiography of he who was general secretary of

the National Union of Railwaymen from 1975 to 1982, Sidney Weinhall. His grandfather became a guard near the end of the nineteenth century, his father was a signalman, and his brother still drives a locomotive. The book's title? What else but *A Hundred Years of Railway Weinhall*.

It sounds livelier than most such memoirs, including as it evidently does "entertaining anecdotes of long-disused branch lines". There is an interview with Sir Peter Parker, who gives "the view of those who tried to run British Rail". Tried? But it has made a profit this year.

The autobiographies of trade union leaders are a burgeoning industry: Lord Gormley not so long ago; Frank Chapman in the autumn; and no doubt Len Murray is at this moment talking to publishers.

The inclination of this column is to criticize rather than puff. Nevertheless, I cannot resist providing a word of praise to Longman Imprint Books, whose general editor is Michael Marshall. They have just made available a number of new titles including five *Television Comedy* Scripts and another of scripts from the BBC television series *Juliet Bravo*. There are stills from the productions, an essay on how a television series is put together and other useful stuff.

My favourite among the new titles though is *A Louise Lee Selection* that roams widely in his prose and poetry and prints photographs from the author's own family album. If any young person needs an incentive to enjoy and understand contemporary writing this series is a model of how to supply it.

E. J. Craddock

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Thursday only at 7.00</

Nicholas

Stephen

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Gates

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ORDINARY SHARES

Big moves afoot in transport

Alan Kelsey and Antony Nash

The transport sector of Britain's stock market (excluding the shipping companies) is, at present, capitalized at only £350m.

Although the business activities encompassed range from ports management to freight forwarding, the sector is dominated by British road haulage. This is an industry which is highly fragmented, has had a difficult history and the profitability of which has been highly variable.

What is of attraction in the transport sector is the high quality of management of the quoted companies within it, such as Transport Development Group, United Parcels and Associated British Ports - the three largest - and the unique position of the sector on the borderline between state and private ownership. The reasons for a strong state presence are numerous, but prominent among them is the strong role that central regulation has to play in transport activities.

Within the last two years two important publicly owned transport companies have been privatized. The first was the imaginative management employed buy-out of the National Freight Consortium. The NFC, which has thrived since then, is the largest road transport concern in Britain and includes such household names as BRS and Pilkingtons.

It is not certain whether or not the NFC will, in the future, come to the stock market but, even if it does not, the greater freedom which the management now enjoys has meant that the NFC has achieved reflects not only the higher level of activity currently enjoyed but also the success of the group's more commercial approach to its operations.

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ABP (as with British Airways and British Airports) is in a unique position. It is the largest operator in its market and has the natural benefit of its geographical locations in the south and east. It has rationalized its operating structure and successfully introduced new working practices.

ABP, as well as British Airways, will profoundly affect the future structure of the industry. Until the outcomes of the inquiry into the future development of Stansted Airport and the Civil Aviation Authority consultation on airline competition policy are clear, future prospects are uncertain.

Whatever the outcomes, however, the fundamental strengths of both British Airways and the British Airports Authority, which derive from the position of Heathrow as the largest and most important international airport in the world, are unlikely to be materially affected.

The lobbying of the Government and the Civil Aviation Authority by the independent airlines has been intensified by the prospect of a commercial British Airways entering the private sector with a slimmed down workforce and a relatively new and forceful management. There are fears of abuse of its dominant position and cross-subsidization leading to the virtual elimination of British independent competition.

The expression of these fears serves to emphasize the theoretical attractiveness of British Airways to the potential investor. Similar fears are expressed concerning the possible denationalization of the British Airports Authority which, unlike British Airways, has an unblemished profits record.

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Let us consider the recent development of the monetary aggregates. Over the last three, six and 12 months, the principal aggregates were comfortably within their target ranges. Only the broadest aggregate, PSL2, is showing any upward buoyancy, which is a reflection of the rapid growth of building society deposits and has more of a message for the housing market than for the economy or financial markets as a whole.

In spite of this sound underlying picture, the market had begun to have worries over the money supply. These, however, were largely based on a single month's bad figures in particular the 1.1 per cent rise in sterling M3 in banking March, together with the expectation of a figure almost as bad for banking April.

In the event, this expectation was wrong, and sterling M3's growth in April was only a half of 1 per cent. It is true that bank lending increased by no less than £1.5bn, but the fact that the market soon shrugged off Tuesday's generally good monetary news demonstrates that it is currently, to a degree, in a mood of selectively paying attention to bad news.

The gloomy mood was further encouraged by the feeling that the authorities may face funding difficulties during the current financial year. This is despite the fact that the amount of gilt-edged stock that the Government needs to sell this year will probably be lower than in 1983-4, or even than the £8.25bn average of the previous four years. This pessimism is partly based on the profile of the PSBR, which is likely to be much higher in the first half of

the year than in the second, when the Government's finances will benefit from higher receipts of VAT and the expected proceeds from the British Telecom sale. The PSBR will probably be about £5bn in the first half of the financial year and only half this level thereafter. The uneven pattern for the PSBR does not have strong implications for the pattern of monetary growth within 1984-5.

The needs of companies for external, and hence bank finance, are likely to rise in the second half of the year to meet the higher VAT payments and to finance an expected bringing forward of fixed-capital investment. Indeed, these potential pressures on bank lending later in the year could become a more significant domestic influence on monetary conditions than the high PSBR in the next few months.

These domestic anxieties have now been added to, indeed overtaken, by events in the US, where the combination of rising short-term rates and a firm dollar has been impossible to resist. Higher US interest rates when the dollar is weak may have little effect on British markets, but the present combination is another matter.

The outcome was the most extensive use of partly-paid stocks, the practice of issuing mini-taps and most notably the introduction of index-linked stocks in March, 1981. Although the authorities generally did not cut the prices of existing issues aggressively below current market prices, they con-

THE GILT-EDGED MARKETS

Good news fails to check the pessimistic tack

Robert Thomas and Geoffrey Dennis

tinued to use the "Duke of York" device. The peak clearing bank base rate of 17 per cent in late 1979 when gilt-edged yields reached 15 per cent and more was a clear example. The tactic was even extended to the index-linked market in July, 1981, when real yields were pushed up sharply to over 21 per cent.

After November, 1981, funding conditions improved dramatically and the great bull market of 1982 followed. The tighter fiscal stance further enhanced the Government Broker's ability to achieve his funding objectives.

In short, he was able to time his issues of stock (and the type of stock in question) more at his own initiative. One outcome was a decline in the volume of long-dated issues to facilitate the twin objectives of reducing the authorities long-term interest burden and to encourage the re-opening of the corporate bond market.

Although there are fears that the authorities may be facing a return to the pre-November, 1981, situation, both the lower estimated required level of sales in the current financial year and sales of some £1m in banking April suggest that any such problems are liable to be short-lived.

In our first article in this series on January 23, we concluded that the bear market in gilt-edged securities that was normal at this stage of the business cycle was unlikely to materialize, that there was unlikely to be a clear trend in gilt-edged prices for much of 1984, but that if US interest rates rose significantly, while the dollar remained firm, there would be upward pressure on British rates.

In the pre-Budget period, the market was on a bull tack while most recently it has been on a bear tack. Nothing that has happened since January has caused us to change our view that the market would be a fluctuating one in which short-term timing would be important.

Robert Thomas is the Economics Partner and Geoffrey Dennis is Senior Economist at IV, Greenwell, the stockbroker.

USM REVIEW

Oilman goes to market to finance winning streak

As Texan oilmen go, Mr Alvin Hickerson might well be at home on the set of the television soap opera *Dallas*, but the achievements of the Ewing family in the world of oil exploration pale into insignificance against his real-life achievements.

He has been exploring for oil for more than 50 years, from Colorado to Haiti, having dropped out of Texas law school in 1953 to develop his first acreage. The job of finding a backer to help finance and develop the site proved lengthy, but successful. He never returned to law school.

Over the past couple of years Mr Hickerson has again been putting together his own oil and gas exploration company, PetroGen, which has applied for a quote on the Unlisted Securities Market.

The stockbroker Laing & Crichton will be offering 4 million shares of common stock with no par value at 80p a share. This represents about 40 per cent of the equity and values the entire company at £8.2m.

PetroGen hopes to raise £2.8m from the issue which will then be placed on deposit until Mr Hickerson can find suitable investment ventures in both America and Europe.

The secret of Mr Hickerson's success lies in his ability to use American tax laws to the full. The technique is simple. PetroGen acquires a site which it thinks contains plentiful oil and gas and then invites operators and American investors with high levels of tax to finance its drilling.

If commercial quantities are discovered, PetroGen puts up the tangible costs of completing the well and splits the revenue equally with the operator. But if the venture proves a failure the investors, or operator, will claim full costs from the taxman and the cost of PetroGen is kept to a minimum.

PetroGen has already struck an agreement with Alamo Securities, an independent oil and gas operator in the United States, to finance a drilling programme of \$4m a year over the next three years from investors in West Virginia.

PetroGen also has a majority shareholding in Petrodan, a Danish company, which has applied for an exploration and production licence for two onshore blocks in Denmark.



Mr Hickerson: Prospects appear impressive.

Petrodan has teamed up with Aminoil, another United States oil company, which has agreed to meet the cost of pre-drilling expenses to the tune of \$500,000.

Meantime PetroGen has acquired a working interest in eight wells in the West Wallenberg field, Colorado, from Mr Hickerson, seven of which are already in production and command a discounted cash flow of \$5.6m.

But it is PetroGen's other projects with Aminoil and Alamo where Mr Hickerson sees the real profit growth coming from. "We want to be fast into a profit as we can", he says.

His enthusiasm is shared by the group's chief geologist, Mr Jan Gording, reputed to be Denmark's top geologist, who is convinced there is oil in commercial quantities to be found on PetroGen's site in Denmark, and says the group has already decided to take part in the second round of exploration licences this year.

PetroGen is a new company with no record and the risk to potential investors could be considered higher than is usual with most exploration companies. But Mr Hickerson's experience and success must count for something.

He is already looking for returns on the Alamo oil project of six to eight times his initial investment, so the growth prospects appear impressive. Applications for shares open on May 15.

Microvitec is another company with good growth potential that has announced its intention of joining the USM. Microvitec is Britain's leading manufacturer of computer

colour monitors, fits most leading makes of micro computers, including Acorn and Sinclair, and has been approved by the Department of Trade.

Last week it launched a new monitor which Mr Tony Martinez, the chairman, hopes will be a winner. The launch coincided with details of its offer for sale on the USM. The merchant banker Hill Samuel and the broker W. Greenwell is offering 7.3 million shares (26 per cent) at 180p, putting it on a p/e of 36. This values the whole company at nearly £49m.

Microvitec was formed in 1979, which means it just fails to qualify for a full listing, which requires a trading record of at least five years. But Mr Martinez cannot wait another year for further financing and says the money is needed now if the company is to maintain its strong growth and maintain its lead in the market.

Last year, pretax profits jumped from £195,000 to £2.51m on sales of £9.6m. Mr Martinez says it is too early to make a forecast for the current year but is looking for another healthy increase in profits, and confirms sales are substantially ahead of the same period last year.

At first glance the shares look a little expensive but, if the growth record can be maintained, this fancy rating should be justified. The price should open at a healthy premium when dealings start on May 4.

Godwin Warren Control Systems, which makes parking systems and railway buffers, has been a keen favourite of many USM watchers since joining the USM nearly a year ago at 57p. Last week's news of a substantial increase in profits last year will only serve to strengthen the group's following.

After producing a sizable increase at the half-way stage, pretax profits for 1983 rose 54 per cent to £309,000 on sales up from £3.08m to £3.4m. A total net dividend of 1.4p has already been forecast.

Over the past few months Godwin has announced several important contracts.

Analysts are hoping that several more large contracts will be announced shortly to help maintain the group's momentum. The shares closed on Friday at 113p.

Michael Clark

APPOINTMENTS

Assurance society chief

Scottish Widows' Fund and Life Assurance Society, Lord Arbutnott, the deputy chairman, has been elected to succeed Sir Michael Herries, as chairman of the Society, Pensions Management (SWF), Scottish Widows' Unit Funds and Scottish Widows' Fund Management for the three years to 1987. Sir Michael, whose term of office as chairman has now expired, is the new deputy chairman of all four companies.

Authority Investments, Lord Lever of Manchester has been appointed an additional director and chairman of the board of the company and of its wholly-owned subsidiary, Kynsley and Co. Mr Brian Sanderson, who has been acting chairman since the death of Sir John Foster, has become deputy chairman of both companies.

Guinness Mahon & Co. Mr John G. Woolfenden has been made a director to head the Venture Capital unit.

Boddingtons' Breweries, Mr Edward A. Boddington, chairman and managing director, will relinquish his role as managing director from July 1 and Mr Hubert V. Reid, currently assistant managing director, has been named managing director in his place. Mr Boddington will continue as executive chairman.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	8.75%
BCCT	9.75%
Chitbank Savings	9.75%
Consolidated Cred	8.75%
Continental Trust	8.75%
C. Hoare & Co.	9%
Lloyds Bank	8.75%
Midland Bank	8.75%
Nat Westminster	8.75%
TSB	8.75%
Williams & Glyn's	8.75%
Crifin N.A.	8.75%



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ATHLETICS

Spedding makes it easy for selectors but choice of women will be a problem

By Pat Butcher

Charlie Spedding and Kevin Forster sat in the elite runners changing room in London's County Hall soon after midday yesterday, chatting as though they had finished a club training run a few minutes beforehand, rather than the race that decided which one of them would go to the Olympics this summer, and which one would stay at home in Gateshead and watch the Games on television.

"Why didn't you wait for me?" was all that the chatty Forster could say by way of reprimand for the way his Gateshead club colleague, Spedding had run away from him in the last five miles of the London Marathon, sponsored by Mars, to win in 2hr 9min 57sec. For Forster's time of 2hr 11.41 in second place is at least a minute too slow for him to be given serious consideration of displacing Geoff Smith and Hugh Jones from the other two Olympic places.

Alan Storey, the men's national marathon coach is not the sole arbiter, but he indicated after the race that yesterday evening's meeting to make the selections, which will be announced on Wednesday, would be straightforward for the men.

"But it's the women that will be a problem." For Joyce Smith, twice a London winner was not competing either. And three women beat her best recent time of 2hr 24.26, which earned her seventh place in the world championships in Helsinki last August. Ingrid Kristiansen of Norway was a magnificent runaway winner of the women's race, as expected, and her time of 2hr 24.26 is the second best in the world.

Priscilla Welch, with 2hr 30.06 - 23 seconds outside Mrs Smith's British best, set in London two years ago - was second. Sarah Rowell third in 2hr 31.28, and Veronique Marot fourth in 2hr 33.52, all better than Mrs Smith's Helsinki time.

Mrs Smith's wealth of experience - she has been a British international for half of her 46 years - will probably sway the selectors. And Miss Marot, a Frenchwoman, who only recently became a British citizen after eight years in the country, would be left to reflect on the irony of Saturday's Mrs Marathon results. That was a national Olympic trial, and the first Frenchwoman, Sylvie Levesque only ran 2hr 38.25.

The 10-minute start given to the elite women enabled Mrs Kristiansen to lead until almost 20 miles, and the sole detraction from her first run makes her one of the favourites for the first Olympic women's marathon, was the decision to have her paced by Mary Cotton up to 10 miles. Jutta Ikingaa, the men's race favourite brought his own pacemaker, a compatriot, Zakkia Baric. They set a pace, which promised a world best up to half way, but which proved to be suicidal.

Spedding and Forster had



Spedding ran away from his pal to win London (Photograph: Chris Cale)

already begun their conversation early in the race, and they decided to let the Tanzanians and the other British contenders have their head.

"We went through 10 miles in 49.24, and we were only in the third group," said Spedding.

Such moderation paid off by 16 miles, when Spedding and Forster moved past their British rivals, John Graham, Malcolm East, Chris Bunyan and Adrian Leek, and reached Ikingaa and Baric. The Tanzanians responded by sprinting away, which is the worst possible tactic with 10 miles still to go in a marathon. Spedding and Forster maintained their rhythm, which eventually took them past the Tanzanians.

Spedding then struck out on his own, passed Mrs Kristiansen, and endured a considerable wind in the last few miles, to create a surprise, similar to two years ago, when he took the third 10,000 metres team place for the European Championships and Commonwealth Games.

Yesterday's front-runners

MEN

1GB unless stated)
1. C. Spedding, 2hr 24.26; 2. K. Forster, 2hr 11.41; 3. D. Forster, 2hr 12.12; 4. D. Storey, 2hr 31.28; 5. J. Kristiansen (Norway), 2hr 24.26; 6. J. Ikingaa (Tanzania), 2hr 23.77; 7. J. Cain, 2hr 27.08; 9. J. Cantwell, 2hr 17.13; 10. M. McCarthy, 2hr 27.13; 31. S. Curran, 2hr 28.15; 32. J. Graham, 2hr 28.15; 33. G. Burley, 2hr 28.24; 34. K. Goldsmith, 2hr 28.24; 35. C. Woodhouse, 2hr 28.31; 36. K. Johnson, 2hr 28.47; 37. L. Sorenson (Denmark), 2hr 28.53; 38. C. Moxson (Norway), 2hr 28.59; 39. O. Robson, 2hr 28.60; 40. E. Turner, 2hr 28.60.

EQUESTRIANISM

Miss Mapleson goes to town

By Jenny MacArthur

Sally Mapleson, from Billerica, Essex, riding Chinatown, gained her second victory at Royal Windsor when she won yesterday's Moden Almack Grand Prix, the richest equestrian competition in Britain.

Miss Mapleson, aged 27, went first in the four horse jump-off and her clear round in 38.90 seconds earned Miss Mapleson, who is looking for a sponsor, £3,500.

Georgina Faulkner was second on Village Bore, a horse she has brought on from a novice, and James Kieran, third on one of the show's spotters, into third place.

With the world driving championships in Hungary less than three months away, the fiercely contested

Harrods Driving Grand Prix proved a good testing ground for the record entry of 22 teams. It was won for the fourth time by the reigning world champion, Tjeerd Velstra from the Netherlands, after a faultless performance in the obstacle driving with his team of bays.

Velstra, a member of the Dutch international show jumping team before turning his talents to driving, held off a challenge from Britain's national champion, George Bowmer, after a second, second grey Lipizzaner, splendidly went down on their knees when the Queen presented Bowmer with his prize.

MODERN ALARMS GRAND PRIX: 1. G. Faulkner (Village Bore), 40.90; 2. G. Bowmer (Tjeerd Velstra), 40.90; 3. J. Kieran (Moden Almack), 40.90; 4. S. Mapleson (Chinatown), 38.90; 5. G. Bowmer (G. Bowmer), 41.28; 6. E. Coney (J. Kieran), 43.46.

CYCLING

Dunkirk was a victory for Hinault

Bernard Hinault, who won the 30th Dunkirk four-day race here yesterday, cast away any doubts about his chances of winning the Tour de France for a fifth time. The Frenchman, who had not won an important race for more than a year, controlled perfectly the final three stages over the weekend: on the cobbled roads to Amiens on Saturday, on the 11 climbs of Mont Casteil, and on the eight laps of a circuit around the broad, sunlit streets of Dunkirk.

Opportunist stage victories went to the Dane, Kim Andersen, of Denmark, and Rudy Matthes, of Belgium. None of these was a danger to Hinault, unless his eventual runner-up, Jean-Luc Vandebroucke, of Belgium, who was given no latitude to take back his 12 seconds deficit.

Sean Yates, the British rider who won the prologue yesterday, retired from the race on Saturday suffering from a heavy cold.

Martin sprints home to win troubled race

Roche wins Tour de Romandie for second year

By Colin McQuillan

Neil Martin, riding for Anglia Sports, won the 29th Lincoln Grand Prix yesterday, outpacing Chris Wharton (CS Stradali) and Peter Sanders (Festival RC1) after 100 miles of controversial racing. The controversy came halfway through when officials stopped the race to lecture the riders for persistently crossing the white line on the A37 into Lincoln. The police had shown concern over their behaviour.

When the race re-started 20 minutes later, the riders staged a slow half for a lap of the 10-lap race until urged to make an effort by Jim Hendry, the national team director, who was looking for talent for the Olympic Games.

The winning break came with 20 miles to go and the riders stayed alert despite a late pursuit by the bunch.

RESULTS: 1. N. Martin (Anglia Sports), 100 miles in 4hr 56min 10sec; 2. C. Wharton (CS Stradali); 3. P. Sanders (Festival RC1); 4. M. Doyle (GS Stradali); 5. K. Reynolds (GS Stradali); 6. P. Longbottom (Manchester Wheelers).

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THE TIMES MONDAY MAY 14 1984

RUGBY UNION

England start by facing Tobias

From David Hands, Rugby Correspondent, Cape Town

Errol Tobias, the first black player to win international honours for South Africa and a Barbarian in Scotland and Wales during the 1982-83 season, will be at stand-off half in the Currie Cup B team against whom England open their tour at Durban next Saturday.

He is, however, the only senior Springbok in the team and is not among the 36 players named over the 1983-84 season, will be at stand-off half in the Currie Cup B team against whom England open their tour at Durban next Saturday.

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Yashgai
fades on
of Derby
picture

RACING

Master Crofter to spark double for O'Gorman

By Mandarin

There can be little dispute that Newmarket-based Bill O'Gorman is the best trainer of sprinters in this country. Like a skilled racing car mechanic O'Gorman is able to tune his thoroughbreds to reach maximum revs and fulfil their potential.

Superlative is a prime example of O'Gorman's professional ability. After a long and arduous campaign last season, competing in many of the best juvenile events, Superlative showed he had lost none of his appetite for racing with a magnificent effort on his reappearance in the Free Handicap, losing by the minimum margin to Cutting Wind.

O'Gorman has also done exceptionally well with his two-year-olds so far this season. Provocative won his fifth race from seven outings at Lingfield Park on Saturday, and Stamping Ground completed a double double with a success at Bath.

The 36-year-old trainer should be on the mark again at this evening's Windsor meeting where he runs Master Crofter (6.20) and Adelphai (7.40). Master Crofter was heavily supported to make a winning first appearance on 1,000 Guineas Day at Newmarket, but he ruined his chance by losing six lengths at the start. In the circumstances this chestnut son of Crofter did so well to finish a close-up fourth behind the Bruce Hobbs-trained winner, Andrios.

With the benefit of that outing Master Crofter is happy

to go racing.

Tree's newcomer Crooking and Odd Man Out, also showed promise in his only start. Adelphai looked likely to score at the first time of asking at Kempton's Easter meeting but failed to hold the challenge of the more experienced Cameroun by three quarters of a length.

Another Newmarket challenger is Nevill Callaghan's Phamood, who chased home Provocative at Kempton while Dimant Blanche must be considered, but Adelphai is selected to add to the O'Gorman tally.

Guy Harwood's Crazy looks

capable of taking the Mar Lodge Stakes after a remarkable first run when he landed a Bath maiden by 15 lengths. He is unlikely to win by such a handsome margin this time though, with Henry Cecil's Braka - a close-up fourth behind stable companion Alleging at Newmarket last term - and Peter Walwyn's Young Nicholas in opposition.

Richard Hannan's Lily Bank is on a handy mark for the Jock Scott Handicap and Bleedale, who won at the rewarding odds of 25-1 at Brighton last month, can defy a 5lb penalty in the Dusty Miller Handicap.

At Pontefract, Michael

Stoute's Abu Kadra is worth

watching in the second qualifier

of the maiden mile champion-

ship. This Blakeney colt ran

with promise on his debut

behind Fire Bay at Haydock.

In the Pontefract Marathon,

Physical, who has recently



Bill O'Gorman: top trainer of sprinters

joined Paul Cole's stable, is

preferred to Sacred Path after

finishing a creditable third

behind Misty Halo in an

amateur riders' race at Notting-

ham.

Double Dealer makes the

long journey from Fulke

John Houghton's Blewbury

stable for the Brocksbrae

Maiden Stakes at Hamilton

and may open his account

while Pat Haslam's Foreigner,

who easily won a seller at the

Scottish meeting on Friday,

should complete a speedy

double in the Newhouse Stakes.

Haslam's representative in

the Lemaghog Selling Stakes,

Alma Real, may not cope with

the course winner Kelly Bay,

while Mark Prescott's Hazel

Bush, a dual winner this season,

can carry on the good work in

the Kirkfieldbank Handicap.

At Pontefract, Michael

Stoute's Abu Kadra is worth

watching in the second qualifier

of the maiden mile champion-

ship. This Blakeney colt ran

with promise on his debut

behind Fire Bay at Haydock.

In the Pontefract Marathon,

Physical, who has recently

WINDSOR

GOING: good

Draw: high numbers best

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2. 8.0000 CASTLE TWEEZERS G Shires 9-0

3. 8.0000 CHANILORE J Odd 9-0

4. 8.0000 FOUL FOR UNCLE F Dury 8-0

5. 8.0000 GENEVIEVE G Dury 8-0

6. 8.0000 MASTER CROFTER W O'Gorman 8-0

7. 8.0000 DOD MAN OUT J Barnes 8-0

8. 8.0000 RIVER STINGER N Vughe 8-0

9. 8.0000 TACONY PARK S Mathews 8-0

10. 8.0000 THE COPIACOMPAK KODI 2 Stables 8-0

11. 8.0000 TRICERATOPS G Dury 8-0

12. 8.0000 VENUS BAY M Stables 8-0

13. 8.0000 COME ON CORMISH C Drew 8-0

14. 8.0000 GARDEN 4-0 P Robinson 7-2

15. 8.0000 Master Crofter 8-0

16. 8.0000 Odd Man Out 7-2

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2. Molecular Biology

A molecular biologist with research experience is required in the Department of Chemical Pathology based at Guy's. The post offers the opportunity to work in association with a team involved in the development of material vaccines using recombinant DNA Technology. Applicants should submit an outline of research proposal relating to the investigation of human pathology. Applicants wishing to visit the Department should contact Professor S. Cohen (01-407 7600 ext 3365).

3. Immunologists

An immunologist, scientifically or clinically qualified, with experience in cellular immunology and preferably with a doctorate in immunology, is required in the Department of Oral Immunology and Microbiology based at Guy's to work on immunoregulation with human and primate cells and for T cell cloning.

Further details can be obtained from Professor T. Lehner (01-407 7600 ext 2950).

Appointments to these three posts will be for an initial period of three years. Applicants should not exceed 35 years of age and must not currently hold a permanent UK university appointment.

Salary in the range £28,080 - £14,125 plus £1,186 London Allowance and Superannuation. For a clinically qualified applicant appointed to the No 3 salary range is £29,490 - £16,440 plus £280 London Allowance.

Application forms are obtainable from and should be returned to the Dean, Guy's Hospital Medical School, London Bridge, SE1 9RT not later than 2nd June 1984.

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The University invites applications from persons with appropriate academic or professional qualifications for appointment to a Chair of Law tenable from October 1st, 1984 or as soon as possible thereafter. Salary will be within the normal professorial range. Applications (suitable for photocopying) giving full details of qualifications and experience and the names and addresses of three referees to the Registrar, The University, Manchester M13 9PL (closing date June 26th) from whom further particulars may be obtained. Quote ref. 113/84/T.

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Applications are invited for a Lecturer in the Department of Chemistry from October 1st, 1984. Candidates should be interested in any area of organic chemistry. It is expected that the appointment will be made within the lower part of the Lecture salary range, the limit of which is £27,180 plus £1,125 (not reviewable plus £1,186 London Allowance).

Further particulars can be obtained from the Assistant Secretary (Personnel), University College London, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT. Applications should reach the Registrar, University College London, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT not later than 2nd June 1984.

Particulars of applicants and applications for posts may be obtained from Staffing Office, UWEIST, PO Box 66, Cardiff CF1 3ED, Tel. 0222 355262 ext 2304, quoting reference UWEIST/1.

Closing Date 31 May 1984.

Further particulars and application forms (2 copies) may be obtained from Staffing Office, University College of Swansea, Singleton Park, Swansea, SA2 8PP, to which address applications should be sent not later than 30 May, 1984, quoting reference PTE/1.

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Lee

BBC 1

8.00 *Ceefax* AM. News, sport, weather, travel teletext.
8.30 *Broadsheet* This. Señor Scott and Mike Smith with news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30, 7.30pm. Money Talk at 5.45, 6.45; medical advice at 8.05. Dress designers David and Elizabeth Emanuel advise spring brides at 8.40, 9.05.

8.00 *Gardener's World*. Back to Barnsley, where Betty Metcalfe is a dab hand with French beans and tomatoes (r). 8.25 *Praise Be With Thora* (r) 10.30 *Ceefax*. 10.30 *Play School* (r) 10.55 *Asian Magazine*. Features novelist Dr Mukti Raj Anand and youngsters discussing political awareness. 11.25 *Ceefax*. 12.30 *News*, weather, 12.57. Financial report and news headlines (London only). Elsewhere, *Regional news*.

1.00 *Pebble Mill* At One discusses career women and their sacrifices. 1.45 *Hockey Cockey*. 2.00 *The Great Liners*. Robert Wall's series on the legendary trans-Atlantic liners reaches the Lusitania, Mauretania and the Titanic (r).

2.30 *Film: Gambit House* (1960). Film noir. Victoria Page's series begins with the two-faced star taking the rap for murder in return for a handsome reward. But the authorities want to deport him and the gang refuse to pay up. Terry Moore and William Bendix also appear.

3.45 *Tom and Jerry*. 3.45 *Play School* visits a farm. 4.20 *All New Poppy Show*. 4.40 *Lease*.

5.00 *John Craven's Newsworld*. 5.15 *Blue Peter*.

5.40 *Sixty Minutes*. News and weather, then regional magazines (5.55).

6.40 *Roof Harris Cartoon* (Time/London area only).

7.10 *Tommy Cooper's The Main Attraction*. Memorial repeat of the summer special by the much-missed comic conjuror includes his hallmark hats, routine and the usual tricks designed to go wrong. Tommy's guests were Chas and Dave, Pam Ayres the Kassier Twins and Frankie Vaughan (r).

7.55 *Points of View*. Barry Took makes light of viewers' views. 8.00 *Panorama*: The Bradford Experiment. David Lomax reports on opposing opinions in Bradford, where pressures from the large Asian community have brought about changes in local schools. The provision of halal meals is merely a focal point in the row between those who feel that the community should bend towards the west, rather than the system back to the east.

9.00 *News*, weather. 9.25 *International Boxing*. Last night's encounter at Wembley Arena between unbeaten Briton Frank Bruno and the American bruiser James Smith, whose middle name is "Bonecrusher". He crossed the Atlantic after nine successive victories, all inside the distance.

10.05 *Film: Across 110th Street* (1972). In the current Cops and Robbers season, the aggressive dispatch from the crime war had Anthony Quinn and Yaphet Kotto as the former and Antonio Fargas (here a not so huggable bear) among the latter. But the battle is further bloodied by the Mafia, who send in psychopathic Yulian Franciosa, to restore control after a black attack on one of its Harlem outposts. Barry Sheer must have worn a bullet-proof vest while directing.

11.45 *News headlines*, weather. 11.50 *Closedown*.

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TV-AM

6.25 *Good Morning Britain*. Anne Diamond and John Stapleton link news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00, 9.30, 10.00, 10.30, 11.00, 11.30 Money Talk at 5.45, 6.45; medical advice at 8.05. Dress designers David and Elizabeth Emanuel advise spring brides at 8.40, 9.05.

8.25 *Thames News Headlines*. 9.30 *For Schools*: Indian legend. 9.47 Reading with Basil Brush. 9.55 *Stimbridge Wildfowl Trust*. 10.11 *Basic Maths*. 10.31 *Nuclear Issues*. 11.00 *Documentary repeat*. 11.22 *Portuguese explorers*. 11.41 *Roman Britain*.

12.00 *Gammon and Spinach*. 12.10 *Let's Pretend*. 12.30 *Homework*. DIY heating.

1.00 *News*, weather.

1.20 *Thames news*. 1.30 *Talking Personally*. Denis Tuohy's interview choice is Denis Healey. They discuss party politics and government.

2.00 *Film: The Arsenal Stadium Mystery* (1939). Charity soccer match against the Gunners is a killer for a team of amateurs when one of them is murdered. Second Yard blow the whistle on this intriguing period piece. 3.30 (approximately 90 minutes long) with Leslie Banks, Greta Gynt, Ian MacLean, Esmond Knight and the pugnacious Arsenal side, Thorold Dickinson, who also scripted, went on to direct *Gaslight* that year.

3.30 *Miracles Take Longer*.

4.00 *Gammon and Spinach* (r) 4.15 *Cartoon Time*: Foghorn Leghorn. 4.20 *Drama*: Night of the Narrow Boots. First of 12 dramas for juniors deals with social responsibility as two boys hide on a canal boat after a gang fight in which a lad is badly injured.

5.15 *Gambit*. Card game for couples returns with Tom O'Connor.

5.45 *Thames News*.

6.25 *Help! Debt Counselling*.

6.35 *Crossroads*. Mevis sees the doctor about her blues.

7.00 *What's My Line?* Odd-job mimics to mystify the oddly-ascertained panel of Jim Davidson, Patrick Mower, Barbara Kelly, Jilly Cooper and George Gale.

7.30 *Coronation Street*. The empty seat in the snug will be forever Albert Tullock's. His daughter announces his death, following the passing of Jack Howarth who played him for 24 years.

8.00 *The Kit Curran Radio Show*. Last night to the chaotic studio has an offer from the BBC sending the fly DJ Denis Lawson into a bit of an unadvisable spin.

8.30 *World in Action*: The White House wants its allies to follow its aggressive new policy against terrorism, described by an observer as "Hunting down the hunted before they hunt us".

9.00 *The Swimmers*: Colin Wetland turns up in this one as an armed rider who can't agree with his confederates on their next big job. They and Waterman watch and wait (r).

10.00 *News at Ten*, followed by *Thames News Headlines*.

10.30 *Des O'Connor Now*: Chat show.

11.30 *The Timeless Land*. Despite the title, the year is 1806, when Australia was still a penal colony. Michael Craig, Nicola Pagett and Angela Punch McGregor are involved in the emotional turmoil there.

12.25 *Night Thoughts*, Rev Robert Whyte describes a church delegation to China, then *Closedown*.

11.45 *News headlines*, weather.

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ITV/LONDON

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Andrew Schofield: Scully (Channel 4, 8.00 pm)

● **THIRD EYE** (BBC 2, 9.30 pm) is the television equivalent of a message in a bottle. And the first one to reach us is as anguished, plaintive and desperate as one would expect of any SOS. This vision of *Namibia*, Africa's Last Colony is that of courageous church-woman Nora Chase, and it focuses bitterly on the illegal occupation and exploitation of her homeland by South Africa. The pitiful sight takes in extreme poverty and children who still gag bubonic plague, while the trunks of Namibia's rich copper, tin and uranium deposits are enjoyed by its foreign oppressors. And, as was across the border in Angola, where many Namibians have fled a pit, filled with corporal punishment, the simple matchsticks. Whatever else the eye doesn't see, the mind can imagine.

● If the kop at Liverpool had the power to canonise, then playwright Alan Bleasdale would be among the first Scousers. The terraces have already sung the praise of his creation, *Yester* (Channel 4, 10.30 pm). Tonight's *SCULLY* (Channel 4, 8.05 pm), the soccer-mad scallywag who first came to light 15 years ago, and has since figured in short stories on local and national radio, two novels, a children's TV series

CHOICE

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and a BBC Play for Today. His latest lease of life does not, I am bound to say, have the excellence of that play, and with Andrew Schofield still in the role, he looks a lot older than 18. But Scully is drawn and played with great affection and Bleasdale's streetwise talent for a sharp turn of phrase, and some fine banter. The sight gags bite the strings of the 24-minute sit-com straitjacket.

● Andrew Lloyd, Liverpool-born, but Belfast-bred, is Mary Peter, the Olympic pentathlete called for the purposes of a new series of illustrated sports interviews, a *MAESTRO* (BBC 2, 10.20 pm). Tonight's is an intriguing insight into the competitive mind. Until she was 30, Mary laboured under the misapprehension that it was "too successful" people would dislike her. After her first taste of gold in 1970, she realized the simple truth

Radio 3

5.55 *Weather*. 7.00 *News*. 7.05 *Morning Concert*: Revel's *Daphnis and Chloe* (Second Suite); Mozart's *Piano Concerto No 11* (Malcolm Bilson, fortepiano). 7.15 *News*. 7.30 *Morning Concert*: part two. 7.45 *Laure's Music Box* (No 1 Jean-Pierre Collard): Weber's *Symphonie No 2* (S. 500). 8.05 *This Week's Composer*: Chopin. Piano works played by Vladimir Ashkenazy (Rondo in G minor).

8.05 *This Week's Composer*: Chopin. Piano works played by Vladimir Ashkenazy (Rondo in G minor).

8.15 *John's Folk*, Liverpool.

8.20 *Music* (10.30 pm). 8.30 *English Songs*. 8.45 *Alison Roden* (soprano) and *Barry Bannister* (piano).

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Unita frees hostages after visit by envoy

Continued from page 1

emission for Sir John, accompanied by much chanting of anti-Cuban and anti-Soviet slogans. Dr Savimbi said Unita found it hard to understand why Britain, "the cradle of democracy in the old continent", should "be the one to support totalitarianism. A fortiori in the presence of the fierce resistance of the majority of the Angolan people".

Describing the current peace initiatives in southern Africa as evidence of good will and political realism, Dr Savimbi said it would "indeed be strange if Britain, which more than anyone else knows this area, were not to play its part as a mediator now for the safeguard of western interests that are also hers".

Of his talks with Dr Savimbi, Sir John said that there had never been any question of recognizing Unita. "We do not recognize movements or, in our case, even governments. We recognize states."

Evidently that Britain may have underestimated Unita's military potential in the past came from two of the released hostages. Mr Robert Jones the area manager of the Katanga mines, and Mr Ian Smythe, a metallurgist, told *The Times* that late last year Mr Marrack Goulding, the British Ambassador in Luanda, had assured Britons working in Katanga that Unita posed no threat to the town.

The tribulations of the Britons began just before 5 am on February 23. "I was woken by what sounded like golf balls cracking against the outside of my house", Mr Smythe said. "In fact, it was sub-machine gun fire".

Eventually Unita soldiers rounded up the Britons and some of other foreigners, mainly Portuguese, and marched them south. Sometimes they walked for 20 hours a day, drinking water from streams and feeding on cassava and mealie-meal, with occasional small amounts of meat.

• Freed Britons named: A British Embassy spokesman in Johannesburg named the freed Britons as Neil Ayres, Ian Felton, Robert Jones, Hwael Lloyd, William Morgan, Thomas Murphy, Graham and Vera Popplewell, Douglas Samuel, Ian Smythe, J. Dougherty, Kenneth Moffat, K. Saunders, A. Tasker, A. Dixon, Robin Kennedy and Dennis Clawson.

Runners who made it the world's biggest marathon



Winners: Charles Spedding, first man home, and Ingrid Kristiansen, first woman.



Forster: The man who won the GLC Marathon.

Continued from page 1

woman home, revealed she had trained in a miner's helmet to see in the dark.

For the men, the day belonged to Gateshead Harriers, the running club which provided both the first and second overall winners. Charles Spedding, of Durham, first across the line in 2:09.57, is a former 10,000 metres track runner.

He said he might have improved his time had not the stiff cool breeze slowed

His elobinate Kevin Forster, stood behind him at 2:11.41. Dennis Fowles, in third place at 2:12.12, set a world marathon record for a Welshman.

Mr Kenneth Livingstone, the Greater London Council leader, said at the prize-giving ceremony that, whatever political fate the GLC suffered, the 1985 London Marathon was safe.

Leading article, page 15
Sport, page 25

Men's times

World record (Alberto Salazar, New York, 1981)	2:08.13
British record (Geoff Smith, New York, 1983)	2:09.08
1984 London winning time	2:09.57
1983 London winning time	2:09.43
1984 winner's personal time	2:11.54

Women's times

World record (Jean Benoit, Boston, 1983)	2:22.43
British record (Joyce Smith, London, 1982)	2:29.43
1984 London winning time	2:24.26
1983 London winning time	2:23.98
1984 winner's personal time	2:27.31



Freckles: One young contestant going strongly.



Clowning: In it for laughs, perhaps.



Finished: A successful contestant being taken to hospital.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, Honorary Fellow of the North East Coast Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders, attends a dinner at the Civic Centre, Newcastle upon Tyne, in connexion with the centenary celebrations of the Institution, 7.10.

The Prince and Princess of Wales attend a banquet given at the Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, W1, 7.30.

Princess Anne, Patron of the Riding for the Disabled Association, opens the Cobbs Meadow Group

and later, accompanied by Princess Michael of Kent, attends the World Premier of the film *Mixed My Heart*, in aid of Unicef at the ABC Cinema, Shaftesbury Avenue, 7.45.

The Duchess of Kent, Patron of the Newbury Spring Festival, attends a concert at St Nicholas Parish Church, Newbury, 7.55.

Princess Alexandra visits North Ayrshire District General Hospital at Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, 12, and later visits Culzean Park Centre, Maybole, Ayrshire, 2.45.

Prince Michael of Kent opens the British Car Auctions premises at Winton Summit, Preston, 11.30;

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